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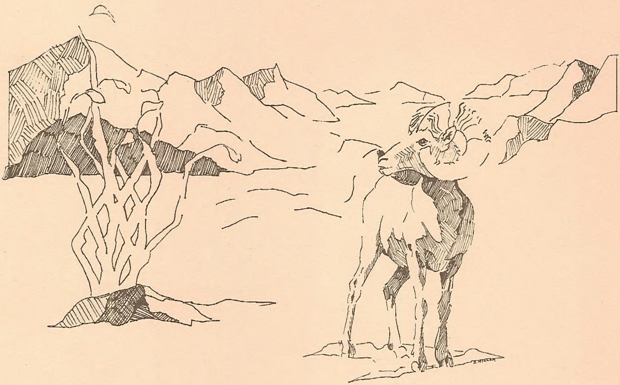
DRAFT YUMA DISTRICT WILDERNESS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



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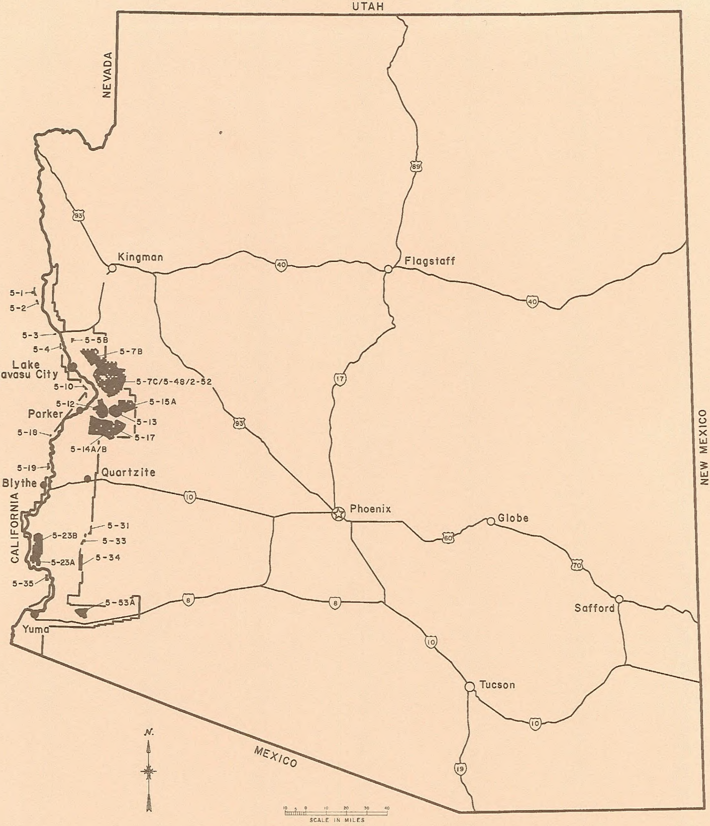

YUMA DISTRICT WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS

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5-2	Dead Mountain, South Addition
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5-4	Chemehuevi / Needles
5-5B	Needles East Addition
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5-7C/ 5-48/2-52	Mojave Wash
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5-31	Kofa Unit 3 South
5-33	Kofa Unit 4 North
5-34	Kofa Unit 4 South
5-35	Little Picacho Peak
5-53A	Muggins Mountain

JULY 1987

March 3, 1849

IN REPLY REFER TO:

8500 (YDO)

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
YUMA DISTRICT OFFICE
3150 Winsor Avenue
P.O. Box 5680
Yuma, Arizona 85365

August 1987

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your comment and review is the draft wilderness environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Yuma District.

The EIS describes the consequences of designating or not designating all or portions of 22 wilderness study areas (WSAs) as wilderness. These WSAs are in Arizona and California, within the Yuma District. This document was prepared to assure that environmental impacts are considered, along with economic and other considerations, in the decision-making process. The information was gathered from public meetings, wilderness inventory records, and other sources including Federal, State, and local agencies, private organizations, and interested individuals.

A 90-day comment period beginning the date this document is filed with the Environmental Protection Agency will continue until close of business on November 20, 1987. We would appreciate receiving your comments on this draft EIS. Public hearings will be held in Lake Havasu City, Parker, Yuma, and Phoenix, Arizona, and in Blythe, California. The schedule for these hearings is as follows:

Date and Time	Location
09/15/87 - 7-9 p.m.	Rancho Viejo Elementary School (Auditorium), 930 South Avenue C, Yuma, Arizona
09/16/87 - 7-9 p.m.	Havasupai Elementary School (Gymnasium), 880 Cashmere Blvd., Lake Havasu City, Arizona
09/22/87 - 7-9 p.m.	Wallace School Gymnasium (Dome), 1650 Navaho, Parker, Arizona
09/23/87 - 7-9 p.m.	Ruth Brown School (Cafetorium), 241 North Seventh Street, Blythe, California
09/29/87 - 7-9 p.m..	Maricopa County Board of Supervisors Auditorium, 205 West Jefferson, Phoenix, Arizona

Comments received after the official comment period closes may be considered in the later decision-making process, even though they may be too late to be included in the final wilderness EIS.

Please address your comments as follows:

District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District Office
3150 Winsor Avenue
P.O. Box 5680
Yuma, Arizona 85365

Your participation in the review of this document is both encouraged and appreciated.

Sincerely,

J. Darwin Snell

J. Darwin Snell
District Manager

#-16529689

ID 88014727

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PROPOSED WILDERNESS PROGRAM
for the
YUMA DISTRICT WILDERNESS EIS AREA
LaPaz, Mohave, and Yuma Counties, Arizona
and
Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties, California

Prepared by

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
YUMA DISTRICT

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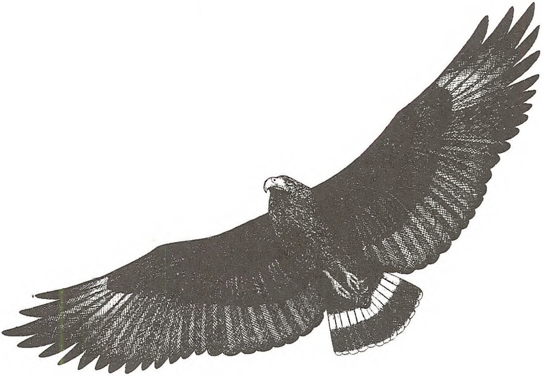
SUMMARY



SUMMARY

PURPOSE AND NEED

The BLM is under congressional mandate to review the public lands for roadless areas of 5,000 acres or more that have wilderness character, and by 1991 to recommend to the President the suitability of such areas for preservation as wilderness. This draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) assesses the environmental consequences of managing as wilderness the 22 wilderness study areas (WSAs) in BLM's Yuma District. The District lies in western Arizona, in La Paz, Mohave and Yuma Counties and southeastern California in Imperial, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. The District includes the Havasu and Yuma Resource Areas.

The Yuma District wilderness review includes the following steps:

- an inventory phase in which roadless areas were evaluated for size, naturalness and oustanding opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation;
- a study phase in which WSAs suitable for wilderness designation were determined; and
- a reporting phase in which suitability recommendations are forwarded to Congress through the Secretary of the Interior and the President.

SCOPING (Issue Identification)

To help identify and summarize significant issues related to wilderness management, BLM held a series of public meetings to identify public concerns. BLM also evaluated public comments received during the wilderness inventory phase and during the comment period on the draft Yuma District Resource Management Plan and BLM specialists applied their professional judgement in analyzing issues. The issue identification process identified the significant wilderness related issues addressed in this draft EIS.

ALTERNATIVES

The alternatives assessed in this draft EIS include: (1) The *No Wilderness/No Action* alternative for each WSA; (2) the *All Wilderness* alternative for each WSA; (3) *Partial Wilderness* alternatives for ten WSAs; and (4) *Enhanced Wilderness* alternatives for two WSAs.

The *Proposed Action* was developed after BLM's review of public scoping comments, inventory data and management concerns and proposed management actions for each WSA. The *Proposed Action* recommends as suitable for wilderness designation all or portions of 12 WSAs totalling 234,858 acres. The remaining 158,367 acres in WSAs would be recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

BLM only identified impacts to those resources that would be significantly impacted by either wilderness designation or nondesignation. The following resources were identified as being significantly impacted.

WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation would ensure the continued preservation and enhancement of wilderness values because designation would preclude some mining and all other types of development. Nondesignation would result in the impairment of some wilderness values because varying levels of development would be allowed in those WSAs not designated.

MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Wilderness designation would cause adverse impacts to minerals and energy exploration and development. Mining restrictions in designated areas would impose strict regulations on exploration for and development of mineral resources. Thus, in many of the WSAs, mineral development would be forgone. Except for reclamation withdrawals, all lands in WSAs not designated wilderness would remain open for mineral leasing and appropriation under the general mining laws and regulations.

RECREATION USE

Wilderness designation would eliminate motorized recreation activity, affecting both the availability of off-road vehicle (ORV) recreation and shifting ORV users to adjacent public lands. Elimination of motorized recreation activity within the wilderness area would be accompanied by some increase in nonmotorized recreation. Overall, wilderness designation would increase annual recreation visitor use in some WSAs and decrease use in other WSAs with a general decrease in total because most existing recreation use is motorized.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Wilderness designation would generally benefit cultural resources in the WSAs by preventing new development. Such development improves access to cultural sites and increases visitation, often resulting in artifact collection and other vandalism.

NATIVE AMERICAN VALUES

Wilderness designation would generally benefit traditional Native American values in the WSAs by preventing new development. Such development could improve access to traditional sites and areas and increases visitation, often resulting in impairment of Native American values at traditional sites and areas (see Glossary: Native American Values).

WILDLIFE HABITAT AND WILDLIFE SENSITIVE SPECIES

Wilderness designation would generally protect wildlife habitat (crucial bighorn sheep habitat and riparian habitat) from long-term cumulative habitat losses that could result from the development anticipated in WSAs not designated wilderness.

BURRO MANAGEMENT

Wilderness designation would generally require burro capture efforts to confine motorized equipment usage to areas outside the wilderness. These restrictions would modify capture methods but not greatly increase costs in the two WSAs where captures occur within the unit.

SENSITIVE PLANTS

Wilderness designation would generally protect sensitive plant habitat from long-term cumulative habitat losses that could result from the development anticipated in WSAs not designated wilderness.

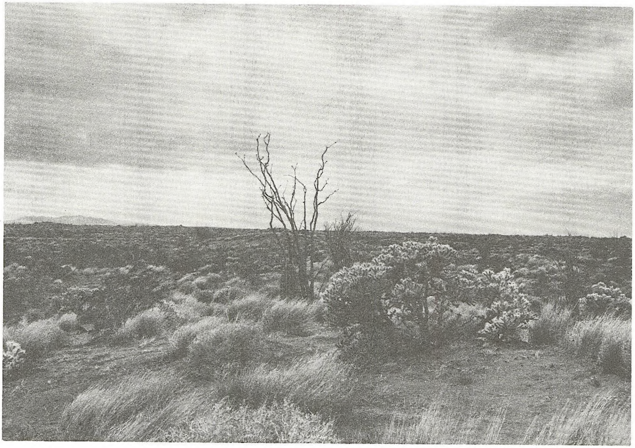
LAND USES

Wilderness designation would prevent granting of rights-of-way in wilderness areas, the disposal of lands in designated wilderness areas, and the development of a quarry. Such land uses can be allowed in WSAs not designated wilderness.

MITIGATING MEASURES

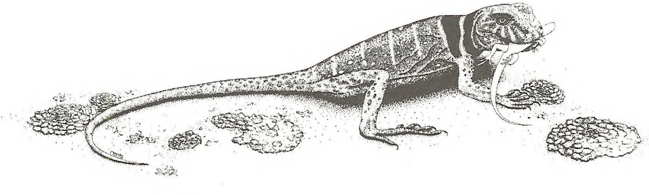
BLM's *Wilderness Management Policy* provides direction to mitigate the impacts of wilderness designation on the following activities: access to state or private inholdings, valid mining claims and the existing private rights that accompany such claims and the maintenance of existing livestock facilities. Many of these potential conflicts would remain. Specific management actions dealing with these conflicts will be addressed in wilderness management plans developed for each designated wilderness area.

Specific laws and regulations require BLM to protect threatened and endangered plants and animals, and cultural and visual resources. BLM is also required to manage the public lands to prevent unnecessary resource degradation. In the event of nondesignation, BLM has a variety of management tools available to preserve wilderness and other resource values.



Chapter 1

PURPOSE AND NEED



CHAPTER 1
PURPOSE AND NEED

INTRODUCTION

The *Yuma Wilderness Draft Environmental Impact Statement* (DEIS) examines the environmental consequences (impacts) that would occur to the resources and uses of 22 wilderness study areas (WSAs) in the Yuma District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) under two or more wilderness management alternatives. The document also describes in detail the resources present in each of the 22 WSAs (Table 1-1).

This Yuma Wilderness DEIS contains only the preliminary recommendations as to whether all or portions of each of the 22 WSAs is suitable or nonsuitable for inclusion into the *National Wilderness Preservation System* (NWPS). Only Congress can designate an area as wilderness. Congress has further retained the right to release the 603 areas from the wilderness review process, whereas the 202 study areas not recommended for wilderness designation may be returned to other forms of management after the final EIS is filed and released to the public. The numbers 603 and 202 reference sections of *Federal Land Policy and Management Act* (FLPMA) of 1976 as discussed in the following section.

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

This wilderness DEIS was prepared to analyze the effects of designation or nondesignation as wilderness of 393,225 acres of public land in 22 wilderness study areas (WSAs). In compliance with the *National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA), this DEIS fully analyzes the environmental effects of implementing reasonable wilderness management alternatives for each WSA.

The DEIS responds to Sections 603(a) and 202 of the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act* (FLPMA) of 1976. These sections of FLPMA made wilderness preservation one of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) multiple use mandates and made the preservation of wilderness values one of the resources BLM considers in multiple use planning. FLPMA directed the BLM to inventory, study, and then report to Congress—through the Secretary of the Interior and the President—those public lands suitable for inclusion in the NWPS. FLPMA requires the Secretary of the Interior to report wilderness recommendations to the President by October 21, 1991 (FLPMA, Section 603(a)). The President must report final recommendations to Congress within two years (October 21, 1993). Congress has no time limit for acting upon the President's recommendations. Seventeen of the WSAs are being evaluated under the requirements of Section 603(a) of FLPMA. Section 202 of FLPMA also provided the BLM with an opportunity to evaluate other areas for wilderness quality which were not mandated under Section 603. The BLM under Section 202 of FLPMA has chosen to study another five areas as listed on Table 1-1. Thus, a total of 22 WSAs are included in this document.

TABLE 1-1

WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

WSAs	Unit Numbers	Acreage
Dead Mountains Northern Addition	AZ-050-01	1,815
Dead Mountains Southern Addition	AZ-050-02	630
Chemehuevi Mountains Addition	AZ-050-03	195
Chemehuevi/Needles Addition	AZ-050-04	960
Needles Eastern Addition*	AZ-050-05B	465
Crossman Peak	AZ-050-07B	38,630
Mohave Wash	AZ-050-07C/ 48/020-52	103,365
Whipple Mountains Addition	AZ-050-10	1,380
Gibraltar Mountain	AZ-050-12	25,260
Planet Peak	AZ-050-13	17,645
Cactus Plain	AZ-050-14A/B	70,360
Swansea	AZ-050-15A	41,690
East Cactus Plain	AZ-050-17	13,735
Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition	AZ-050-18	415
Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition	AZ-050-19	1,420
South Trigo Mountains*	AZ-050-23A	4,500
Trigo Mountains	AZ-050-23B	36,870
Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition*	AZ-050-31	3,400
Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition*	AZ-050-33	1,900
Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition*	AZ-050-34	11,220
Little Picacho Peak Addition	AZ-050-35	2,915
Muggins Mountains	AZ-050-53A	14,455
TOTAL ACREAGE		393,225

*These WSAs are being studied under Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Source: Yuma District Files

The Proposed Action represents BLM's preliminary recommendations for these 22 WSAs. These recommendations are subject to change during public and administrative review of this document.

SCOPING (Issue Identification)

Scoping served to identify the significant environmental issues to be analyzed in this DEIS and eliminated insignificant issues from detailed study. The significant environmental issues have been incorporated into a range of alternatives for each WSA, and the impacts of implementing such alternatives are analyzed in this DEIS. A description of all phases of the scoping process is in Chapter 5 (Consultation and Coordination) of this DEIS.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE IDENTIFICATION

BLM's DEIS team used the scoping process to identify and address public and management concerns associated with the WSAs considered for wilderness designation. The team then defined which concerns were significant and would be analyzed in the DEIS. Table 1-2 lists the issues which were identified as significant and which issues pertain to which wilderness study areas. They are:

Effects on Wilderness Values. The wilderness values of naturalness, solitude, primitive recreation and various special values could benefit from wilderness designation. The same values may be adversely affected by uses and actions that would occur should the WSAs not be designated wilderness. The impacts of wilderness designation and nondesignation on wilderness values are an issue for analysis in all 22 WSAs addressed in this DEIS.

Effects on the Level of Mineral Development. Wilderness designation would affect the development of mineral resources by eliminating designated lands from mineral entry and prohibiting mineral leasing and disposal of mineral materials. Development of existing mining claims within designated wilderness areas could be affected by wilderness management restrictions although mineral rights valid upon wilderness designation would be allowed to be exercised. The effect of wilderness designation on the development of undiscovered and discovered mineral resources is an issue in 14 WSAs.

Effects on the Level of Motorized Recreational Activities. Wilderness designation would eliminate the use of motorized vehicles in designated areas. Eliminating this use would affect the availability of opportunities for motorized recreation and would shift to adjacent lands the motorized use now in the WSAs. The effect of wilderness designation on motorized recreational use is an issue in 19 WSAs.

Effects on the Level of Nonmotorized Recreational Activities. Wilderness designation would protect nonmotorized recreation opportunities. In those WSAs designated as wilderness, nonmotorized recreation use is expected to increase. The effect of wilderness designation on nonmotorized recreation is an issue in all 22 WSAs.

Effects on Cultural Resources. Certain cultural sites in the WSAs are considered eligible for listing on the *National Register of Historic Places*. Wilderness designation would close the area to motorized vehicle use, thus protecting the sites from vehicle damage. The impact of wilderness designation on the eligible cultural resource sites in these 20 WSAs is an issue in this DEIS.

Effects on Native American Values. Wilderness designation would protect Native American values at traditional sites and areas by restricting activities which would impair these sites and areas. The impact of wilderness designation on Native American traditional sites and areas is an issue in eight WSAs that contain these sites and areas.

Effects on the Amount of Crucial Wildlife and Riparian Habitats. Wilderness designation would protect riparian, desert tortoise and crucial bighorn sheep habitats by reducing surface-disturbing activities and eliminating ORV use in those habitats. The effect of wilderness designation on riparian, desert tortoise and crucial bighorn habitats is an issue only in the 14 WSAs that contain these habitats.

Effects on Threatened and Endangered Species (Wildlife). Wilderness designation would benefit threatened and endangered species by precluding surface-disturbing activities and ORV use in their habitats. T&E species are an issue in 17 of the WSAs.

Effects on Wild Burro Management. Wilderness designation would affect the capture methods used to remove surplus animals. Burro management is an issue on two WSAs.

Effects on the Protection of Sensitive Plants. Wilderness designation would beneficially affect habitat for plant species that are candidates for inclusion on the Federal Threatened and Endangered list by precluding most surface-disturbing activities and ORV use in those species' habitats. Protected plants is an issue in 16 of the WSAs.

Effects on Utility Corridors. Wilderness designation would not allow new development in utility corridors located in a designated area. Most utility corridors are one or two miles wide with one-half of the corridor located on either side of an existing utility line. Since this utility line often is the WSA boundary, the rights-of-way corridor overlaps one-half or one mile into the WSA. The effect of wilderness designation on utility corridors is an

TABLE 1-2

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

WSAs	Wilderness Values	Mineral Development	Motorized Recreation	Nonmotorized Recreation	Cultural Resources	Native American Values	Crucial Bighorn Sheep Habitat	Riparian Habitat	Wildlife T, E and Sensitive Species	Burro Managmenet	Sensitive Plants	Land Use		
												Utility Corridors	Exchange	Withdrawal
Dead Mountains, Northern Addition	X		X	X	X	X			X			X		
Dead Mountains, Southern Addition	X		X	X	X	X			X			X		
Chemehuevi Mountains Addition	X			X	X	X			X			X		X
Chemehuevi/Needles Addition	X			X	X	X			X					
Needles Eastern Addition	X		X	X	X		X		X					
Crossman Peak	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X		
Mohave Wash	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X		
Whipple Mountains Addition	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X		
Gibraltar Mountain	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X		
Planet Peak	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X		
Cactus Plain	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X	
Swansea	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X		
East Cactus Plain	X	X		X	X				X		X	X		
Big Maria Mountains, Northern Addition	X		X	X	X				X		X			
Big Maria Mountains, Southern Addition	X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X			
South Trigo Mountains	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X				
Trigo Mountains	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X			
Kofa Unit 3, Southern Addition	X		X	X	X		X		X		X			
Kofa Unit 4, Northern Addition	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X		
Kofa Unit 4, Southern Addition	X		X	X	X		X		X		X			
Little Picacho Peak Addition	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X			
Muggins Mountains	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X		
TOTAL UNITS AFFECTED BY ISSUE	22	13	19	22	22	8	14	1	22	2	16	13	1	1

issue in 13 WSAs where powerline and pipeline corridors are affected.

Effects on Land Exchange. Wilderness designation would not allow land within the designated area to be exchanged for development purposes. The effect of wilderness designation on land exchanges is an issue in the Cactus Plain WSA where land may be transferred to the State of Arizona.

Effects on the Use of Withdrawn Land. Wilderness designation would prevent the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation from developing rock quarries on Reclamation withdrawn land within a designated area. The effect of wilderness designation on the use of withdrawn land is an issue in the Chemehuevi Mountains Addition WSA where a quarry expansion is planned.

ISSUES CONSIDERED BUT NOT ANALYZED

The following issues were identified in scoping, but were not selected for detailed analysis in the DEIS. The reasons for setting each of the issues aside are discussed under the heading for each issue.

Effects on Livestock Management Projects. No livestock management projects are planned in any of the 22 WSAs.

Effects on Livestock Operations. Concerns were raised that livestock operators could be required to modify their operations within designated wilderness areas in a manner that would have significant adverse economic impact on their business. This issue was considered but dropped because BLM's wilderness management policy provides for possible fluctuations of livestock numbers and changes in the kind or class of livestock or seasons of use, if warranted through monitoring data and if these adjustments did not impair wilderness characteristics. However, designation is expected to cause closer regulation of range improvement maintenance or practices in WSAs designated as wilderness. Although the management practices of livestock operators in the designated wilderness areas would be closely regulated, the operators would still be allowed to maintain range improvements in a practical and reasonable manner as necessary to support existing livestock operations. Therefore, the effect of wilderness designation on livestock operations is not an issue in this DEIS.

Effects on Air Quality Classification. Concerns were raised regarding the effect of wilderness designation on existing air quality classifications. Since the wilderness management policy states that BLM will manage all wilderness areas to comply with the air quality classification for that specific area, wilderness designation or nondesignation would not recommend reclassification of air quality standards for wilderness areas from the existing Class II to the more restrictive Class I. Therefore, air quality is not an issue in this DEIS.

Effects on Water Quality. Water quality is not expected to be impacted by wilderness designation or nondesignation because most actions that affect water quality, such as livestock grazing, would not be affected by wilderness designation. Other activities, such as mineral development, affect such small areas that their influence on water quality is negligible. Federal and state laws affecting water quality management require mandatory compliance regardless of designation or nondesignation. Therefore, water quality is not an issue in this DEIS.

Effects on Endangered Species. Wildlife and vegetation inventories and consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service did not identify any endangered species in any of the 22 WSAs addressed in this DEIS.

Effects on Wildlife. An issue dealing with nonsensitive wildlife populations and habitats was considered but not included in this DEIS. Based on development projections in these areas, little or no change in wildlife populations (other than bighorn sheep and desert tortoise) or habitat is anticipated with wilderness designation or nondesignation in any of the 22 WSAs addressed in this DEIS.

Effects on Soil Erosion. Consultation with the Soil Conservation Service has indicated that none of the WSAs have soil erosion problems. While wilderness designation would restrict surface-disturbing activities, anticipated surface-disturbing activities within the 15 WSAs where surface disturbance would occur would not accelerate soil erosion. Therefore, the effect of wilderness designation on soil erosion is not an issue in this DEIS.

Social Elements. Social attitudes and values are not expected to be impacted by the designation or nondesignation of wilderness; therefore, social elements are not an issue in this DEIS.

Military Overflights. There will be no specific prohibition of overflights above designated wilderness areas by aircraft on essential military training missions in accordance with BLM policy. Where low overflights would be expected to become a problem, wilderness management plans would provide for liaison between BLM and the military in efforts to resolve overflight problems. Therefore, military overflights are not considered to be an issue in this DEIS.

Effects on Economic Conditions. Wilderness designation would preclude a number of mining operations in all 22 WSAs addressed in this DEIS. The economic impact of precluding these mining operations may affect local communities to some degree but is not expected to significantly impact the diverse economy of the economic study area. Designation would result in a small loss of oil and gas lease revenues collected by the BLM. However, this loss is not expected to significantly impact those collections because the loss amounts to less than one percent of BLM's total oil and gas lease revenues. No loss is expected from oil and gas production revenues because none of the 22 WSAs contain proven reserves. Therefore, the economic impact resulting from wilderness designation and nondesignation is not an issue in any of the 22 WSAs addressed in this DEIS.

Effects on Fire Management. Concerns over the wilderness designation on fire management were raised for the Crossman Peak and Swansea WSAs. The Yuma District is developing a fire suppression plan for the Havasu Resource Area, which includes both WSAs. The plan will address fire management in relation to the wilderness values in the two units. Completion of this plan will include preparation of an environmental analysis. In the interim, fire suppression would be conducted on a case-specific basis considering wilderness values and public safety.

SELECTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVES

Development of the alternatives is guided by requirements of the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969* (NEPA) Section 102(2)(c), the *Department of the Interior Manual* section 516 and FLPMA. The BLM's *Wilderness Study Policy* (published February 3, 1982, in the *Federal Register*) supplements the aforementioned regulations by providing the specific factors to be considered during the planning process in developing wilderness alternatives.

NEPA requires consideration of alternatives and *Council of Environmental Quality* (CEQ) regulations call for the formulation and evaluation of all reasonable alternatives. Therefore, the alternatives assessed in this DEIS include: (1) a *No Wilderness* alternative for each WSA; (2) an *All Wilderness* alternative for each WSA; and (3) one or more partial wilderness alternatives for the Crossman Peak, Mohave Wash, Whipple Mountains Addition, Gibraltar Mountain, Planet Peak, Cactus Plain, Swansea, Trigo Mountains, Kofa Unit 4, Northern Addition and the Muggins Mountain WSAs.

In this document, the *No Action*, as required by NEPA, and *No Wilderness* alternatives are the same. The *No Action/No Wilderness* alternative anticipates a continuation of the present management, as provided for in the Yuma RMP, as all lands would be recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness.

The *All Wilderness* alternative represents the maximum possible WSA acreage that could be recommended as suitable for wilderness designation. Partial wilderness alternatives make suitable or nonsuitable recommendations ranging between the *All Wilderness* and *No Wilderness* alternatives. The *Proposed Action* recommends all wilderness for two, no wilderness for ten and partial wilderness for ten.

Table 2-2 shows WSA acreage recommended suitable for wilderness designation under each alternative.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED FOR DETAILED STUDY

Five other wilderness alternatives were eliminated from detailed study—four since they neither met the criteria of improving manageability nor eliminated potential resource conflicts, and the fifth because it was beyond the scope of this document. They were for:

1) **MOHAVE WASH** — One partial wilderness recommendation of 65,898 acres which included more of the southern part and more acreage than the proposed action (55,018 acres). Rejected because the additional acreage was of marginal wilderness quality, would have greatly increased manageability concerns and would not have solved any resource conflicts.

2) **EAST CACTUS PLAIN** — One partial recommendation to add 14,895 acres to the northern part of the unit. Rejected, even though it would improve manageability, because enlarging the WSA boundaries is beyond the scope of this document.

3) **SOUTH TRIGO MOUNTAINS** — One partial wilderness recommendation for 1,500-acre area in the western part of the WSA. Rejected because the narrow, linear area would not provide good solitude and primitive recreation opportunities, nor would it resolve resource conflicts or manageability concerns.

4) **TRIGO MOUNTAINS** — One partial wilderness recommendation for about 13,000 acres in the southern part of the WSA. Rejected because the wilderness qualities were not high enough and the recommendation failed to resolve resource conflicts and manageability concerns.

5) **TRIGO MOUNTAINS** — Another partial for 22,610 acres in central and southern parts — an attempt to open up the northern part for mineral development. Rejected because the minimal possibility of developing the potential did not provide enough reason to recommend the alternative.

Chapter 2

ALTERNATIVES

CHAPTER 2

DESCRIPTION OF THE ALTERNATIVES

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes in detail the alternatives selected for analysis in this draft environmental impact statement (DEIS). To provide the public and the decisionmaker with a convenient tool for comparing impacts, defining issues and reaching conclusions, the chapter ends with an impact summary table (Table 2-4), for each WSA, comparing the effects on resources that would result from implementing each alternative.

YUMA DISTRICT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN DECISIONS

The *Yuma District Resource Management Plan* (RMP), which was approved in May 1986 and March 1987, provides the basis for managing public lands and resources in the Yuma District over the next 10 to 20 years. The RMP consists of general management guidance and specific management decisions.

The general management guidance in the approved RMP mostly represents standard operating procedures established by law, regulations and BLM's national or state policy. It includes guidance for mineral exploration and development, cultural resources management, wildlife habitat management, wild burro management, and livestock and rangeland management. It also includes provisions for the environmental analysis of all proposed projects or actions that are not specifically covered by the RMP or categorical exclusions. This general management guidance is applicable to all WSAs in the district, whether designated or not designated wilderness.

There are several specific managerial decisions in the approved RMP that would also affect the management of WSAs or portions thereof, either designated or not designated wilderness. (See Table 2-1 for WSAs affected by the RMP decisions.) These decisions are listed below.

TABLE 2-1
WSAs AFFECTED BY YUMA DISTRICT RMP MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

WSA	Priority Wildlife Habitat	Special Management Areas	Utility Corridors	ORV Designations	Land Tenure Adjustments
Dead Mountains Northern Addition			X	X	
Dead Mountains Southern Addition			X	X	
Chemehuevi Mountains Addition			X	X	
Chemehuevi/Needles Addition				X	
Needles Eastern Addition	X			X	
Crossman Peak	X	X		X	
Mohave Wash	X	X	X	X	X
Whipple Mountains Addition	X	X		X	
Gibraltar Mountain	X	X	X	X	
Planet Peak	X		X	X	
Cactus Plain		X	X	X	X
Swansea	X		X	X	
East Cactus Plain		X	X	X	X
Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition				X	
Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition		X		X	
South Trigo Mountains	X			X	
Trigo Mountains	X			X	X
Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition				X	
Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition	X		X	X	
Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition	X			X	
Little Picacho Peak Addition				X	
Muggins Mountains		X	X	X	
TOTAL WSAs	11	8	11	22	4

DECISIONS AND MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS

PRIORITY WILDLIFE HABITAT AREAS

Wildlife habitat is a priority consideration on approximately 247,740 acres under the approved plan. These areas with important wildlife values are referred to as priority wildlife habitat. Allowable uses on priority wildlife habitat areas include compatible activities or those uses with impacts that can be mitigated to preserve or enhance wildlife values. Improvements are restricted to those that are compatible with wildlife habitat or cultural resources and those required by mining. No sand and gravel permits will be authorized, but surface occupancy for oil and gas leases is allowed on all areas except on bighorn sheep lambing grounds (11,100 acres) and lands immediately adjacent to springs in priority wildlife habitat (approximately 40 surrounding acres). Utility rights-of-way within priority wildlife habitat areas are confined to designated corridors. Roads accessing utilities are closed to public entry. ORV use is limited to existing roads and trails. All public lands within priority wildlife habitat will be retained in federal ownership unless patented under the mining laws.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Cultural and natural values are a priority consideration on the areas identified in the approved plan. Allowable uses on special management areas for cultural and natural resources include compatible activities or those with impacts that can be mitigated to preserve or enhance the recognized values.

Cultural Resources. Cultural resources on 33 sites and areas totaling approximately 6,800 acres are managed under the "conservation for future use" category; i.e., preserved in place. Additional sites will be added to the list of special management areas for cultural resources as they become identified. Cultural resource areas are not identified in the RMP to protect the resources from disturbance or unauthorized collecting. Mandatory disclosure of the locations of the cultural resource sites is specifically excluded from the *Freedom of Information Act.*

Allowable uses on the 33 cultural resource sites and areas include activities that are compatible with the objective of preserving these resources in place for future use. Improvements are restricted to those that are compatible with the cultural resources or those required for mining. Approximately 6,000 acres (88%) of these lands are under Bureau of Reclamation withdrawal and therefore segregated from mineral entry and development. Mining activity on the remaining sites and areas is be managed so as to avoid disruption or, where this is not possible, minimize damage to cultural values using regulatory standards contained in 43 CFR 800. Surface occupancy for oil and gas leases, sand and gravel permits, and utility rights-of-way will not be authorized on these lands. ORV use is restricted to existing roads and trails.

Unique Natural Areas and Features. The approved plan designates two areas (31,360 acres) as special management areas — Crossman Peak as a Natural Scenic Area (26,080 acres) and the Big Marias (5,280 acres) as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

Improvements are restricted to those compatible with the natural or cultural resources for which the areas are recognized and, on Crossman Peak, to those permitted by the mining laws. The Big Marias ACEC will be withdrawn from entry for exploration and development of locatable and leasable minerals in order to protect cultural resources in this area. Surface occupancy for oil and gas leases will be authorized on Crossman Peak. No additional sand and gravel permits or utility rights-of-way will be authorized on either area. ORV use is limited to existing roads and trails on Crossman Peak and to designated roads and trails on the Big Marias.

Six other areas totaling 155,705 acres have not been formally designated, but are managed under special prescriptions to protect their natural values. These areas are the Whipple Mountains (15,170 acres), Aubrey Hills (20,000 acres), Gibraltar Mountains (25,260 acres), Cactus Plain (76,060 acres), Milpitas Wash (4,760 acres) and Muggins Mountains (14,455 acres). Improvements on these six areas are restricted to those compatible with the natural or cultural resources for which the areas are recognized and to those permitted by the mining laws. Surface occupancy for oil and gas leases is permitted on all of these areas but no sand and gravel permits or new utility rights-of-way are authorized on these areas. ORV use is limited to existing roads and trails.

UTILITY CORRIDORS

The plan specifies that new utility facilities be located in the designated corridors. An EA or EIS for the project will be prepared. The RMP provides for routing new utilities outside designated corridors only where the project EA/EIS determines this is the only practicable alternative. However, locating facilities outside of designated corridors is prohibited in special management areas and will be avoided insofar as possible in priority wildlife habitat areas.

Utility corridors are an important consideration in wilderness planning because several of the corridors overlap WSAs. Most corridors were designated to follow existing utility lines using the existing utility line as the centerline of the corridor. These utility lines also form some of the WSA boundaries, which means that one-half the width of the corridor overlaps the WSA. Most corridors are one or two miles wide and overlap one-half or one mile into the WSA.

ORV DESIGNATIONS

The approved RMP classifies 640 acres as open to intensive ORV use, 13,985 acres as limited to designated roads and trails, and 22,420 acres as closed to ORV use. ORV use is limited to existing roads and trails on the remaining 1,154,955 acres in the District. An inventory is being completed to clearly ascertain "existing roads and trails" in the district. Meanwhile, "existing" refers to those roads and trails that are present in the district on May 1986 (the date these plan provisions were adopted). Priority wildlife habitat, special management, high use recreational and other areas with potential for significant conflict between ORV use and other resources and uses will receive priority consideration in the inventory.

Two competitive-use ORV areas are designated in the district — the Parker 400 course and the Ehrenberg Sand Bowl. The season of use for the Parker course is December 1 to February 28. If more than one race per year is proposed for the course, an environmental assessment will be developed to determine the number of events that will be authorized. A management plan is being developed to guide facility development and monitoring of impacts for each of the competitive use areas.

LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENT

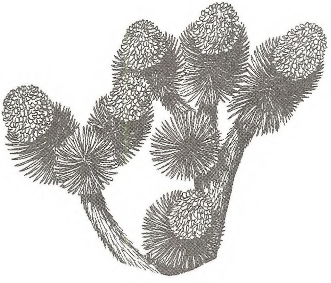
Disposals. The Record of Decision (ROD) makes available for disposal all federal lands in Areas 1-8 and 10-12 (55,490 acres).

Area 10 (approximately 1,100 acres) is available for disposal only in full compensation for the federal land debt resulting from the Central Arizona Project. This debt settlement may involve transfer of Area 10 lands to (a) the State of Arizona and (b) Lake Havasu City under Recreation and Public Purposes authority. The lands in Area 10 were transferred to the State of Arizona and Lake Havasu City on November 7, 1986.

Areas 11 and 12 (approximately 11,200 acres) are available for transfer to Arizona through exchange or State Indemnity Selection. All other disposal areas are available for transfer through exchange or sale, with exchange being the preferred method of disposal.

Lands within Area 11 (3,325 acres) are subject to release by Congress from wilderness study before disposal. (This area is within the Cactus Plain WSA.)

Acquisitions. BLM will attempt to acquire 31,220 acres through exchange to benefit federal programs. Except for those acquired for wilderness, these lands would all be open to mineral entry and development in accordance with mining law and regulations.



DESCRIPTION OF THE ALTERNATIVES (See Table 2-2)

This section describes the alternatives for each WSA being analyzed in this DEIS. First is a general description of the alternatives, followed by the management actions or uses anticipated within the next 25 years.

Since the pattern of future management actions and uses in each WSA cannot be predicted with certainty, assumptions are made to allow impacts to be analyzed. These assumptions are the basis for the management actions and uses developed for each WSA and alternative. The management actions are not management proposals, but represent probable patterns of activities, depending on the land's status (wilderness or not). These uses and management actions are discussed in terms of the involved resources — minerals, land uses, rangeland management, recreation, wildlife and burros.

The following are assumptions used by resource specialists in identifying the uses and management actions:

MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Valid existing rights would allow mining activities in a designated wilderness to continue.

All mineral development projections are based on past production activities, current exploration activities and on geological inference.

Mineral discoveries would have to be proven valid as of the date of designation, or the discoveries would be excluded by wilderness designation.

All the mineral exploration and development programs are described for each alternative. The typical exploration program activity will use a trackmounted air drill and involve the support vehicles.

A general program surface development will include —

— Temporary-use access roads
— Employ up to three people
— A drill site frequency of two for each mile of temporary access, and
— Disturb 0.13 surface access (75′x75′) for each drill site.

A comprehensive program surface development will include —

— Temporary-use access roads
— Employ up to four people
— A drill site frequency of two for each mile of temporary access, and
— Disturb 0.13 surace acres (75′x75′) for each drill site.

The typical underground mine (Ug) described in this DEIS would use the shrinkage mining method with rail ore cars moved by a battery-powered locomotive.

TABLE 2-2
WSA ALTERNATIVES ANALYZED

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District Office, Arizona

WSA	Alternative	Acres Suitable	Acres Unsuitable
Dead Mountains Northern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	1,815
	All Wilderness	1,815	0
Dead Mountains Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	630
	All Wilderness	630	0
Chemehuevi Mountains Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	195
	All Wilderness	195	0
Chemehuevi/Needles Addition	Proposed Action/All Wilderness	960	0
	No Wilderness	0	960
Needles Eastern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	465
	All Wilderness	465	0
Crossman Peak	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	19,290	19,340
	All Wilderness	38,630	0
	No Wilderness	0	38,630
Mohave Wash	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	55,018	48,347
	All Wilderness	103,365	0
	No Wilderness	0	103,365
Whipple Mountains Addition	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	1,260	120
	All Wilderness	1,380	0
	No Wilderness	0	1,380
Gibraltar Mountain	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	15,675	9,585
	All Wilderness	25,260	0
	No Wilderness	0	25,260
Planet Peak	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	16,430	1,215
	All Wilderness	17,645	0
	No Wilderness	0	17,645
Cactus Plain	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	62,325	8,035
	All Wilderness	70,360	0
	Enhanced Wilderness	65,330	5,030
	No Wilderness	0	70,360
Swansea	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	11,795	29,895
	All Wilderness	41,690	0
	No Wilderness	0	41,690
East Cactus Plain	Proposed Action/All Wilderness	13,735	0
	No Wilderness	0	13,735
Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	415
	All Wilderness	415	0
Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	1,420
	All Wilderness	1,420	0
South Trigo Mountains	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	4,500
	All Wilderness	4,500	0
Trigo Mountains	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	29,095	7,775
	All Wilderness	36,870	0
	Enhanced Wilderness	34,240	2,630
	No Wilderness	0	36,870
Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	3,400
	All Wilderness	3,400	0
Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	1,380	520
	All Wilderness	1,900	0
	No Wilderness	0	1,900
Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	11,220
	All Wilderness	11,220	0
Little Picacho Peak Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	2,915
	All Wilderness	2,915	0
Muggins Mountains	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	8,855	5,600
	All Wilderness	14,455	0
	No Wilderness	0	14,455

Source: Yuma District Files

Surface development to support underground mining would include —

- — Mine plant and buildings
- — Equipment maintenance and retrograde yard
- — Engineering and management facilities
- — Mill plant and tailings thickener
- — .625 mile of tailings-conveyance system, and
- — a tailings disposal area.

The typical small underground mining operation would —

- — process up to 100 ore tons per day
- — employ up to 12 people
- — have up to four building structures, and
- — disturb approximately 5 surface acres (unless otherwise identified) plus the access.

The typical moderate (medium) underground mining operation would —

- — process up to 500 ore tons per day
- — employ up to 30 people
- — have up to six building structures, and
- — disturb 50 surface acres plus the access.

Surface mine disturbances will cover larger areas by the nature of the mining technique. The typical surface mine (Su) described in this DEIS would employ the open pit mining method, using drills, transferal loaders and trucks.

Surface-disturbing activity related to open pit mining includes —

- — mine plant including engineering and management facilities
- — equipment maintenance and retrograde yard
- — haulage routes
- — mill plant including tailings thickener
- — .625 mile of tailings conveyance system, and
- — a tailings disposal area.

The typical small surface mining operation would —

- — process up to 500 ore tons per day
- — employ up to 12 people
- — have up to six building structures, and
- — cause up to 50 acres of surface disturbance plus the access needed.

The typical moderate surface mining operation would —

- — process up to 1,000 ore tons per day
- — employ up to 40 people
- — have up to seven building structures, and
- — disturb up to 300 surface acres (unless otherwise identified) plus the access needed.

The typical large surface mining operation would exceed the size of the smaller surface mines, disturbing up to 600 acres plus the access needed.

As indicated in the Yuma District RMP, all mineral development would be managed according to the surface management regulations contained in 43 CFR 3800 — Subpart 3809 (BLM, 1985). The Mining Plan of Operation procedure described in 43 CFR 3800 would be used in order to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation of the environment.

No oil or gas development is anticipated in any of the WSAs addressed in this DEIS.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use in the WSAs is projected 25 years into the future, and all projections are based on Arizona's and southern California's projected population increases over that period. Visitor use is reported in number of recreation visitor days use per year (VDY). A recreation visitor day is defined in the glossary. It is assumed that recreation use would increase proportionately with the states' population increase. No recreational facilities exist or are planned in any of the WSAs addressed in this DEIS.

Vehicles are used to travel to all WSAs (and within most), are currently a part of all recreation use, and would be prohibited in designated areas.

A wilderness permit system would be established to control visitor use in sensitive areas. Groups visiting certain bighorn lambing grounds between January 1 and June 30 would be limited to a maximum of 10 people. Other details of the permit system would be specified in wilderness management plans.

CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Cultural resource inventories and adverse impact mitigation are undertaken on public lands before authorizing surface-disturbing activities, such as utility corridor construction, livestock and wildlife projects or mining operations. Mitigating measures will be proposed to preserve scientific information and other cultural values for any cultural resources in an area of possible surface disturbance.

NATIVE AMERICAN VALUES

Sites and areas considered important to the Mohave and Quechan tribes are located within the Yuma District. The BLM is only partially aware of the some of the locations and significance of these sites and areas of traditional Native American value. The BLM will take into consideration any actions which may affect these sites or areas of traditional value. In order to accomplish this, the BLM will notify these tribes of proposed projects which may affect these values. The tribes will be asked to respond when a proposed project will have an affect on these values. The Yuma BLM does not have an inventory or description of sites, areas or traditional values held by these tribes.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Threatened and endangered wildlife and plant species, both federal and state-listed, and their habitats would be considered as required by law.

Development and maintenance of wildlife habitat improvements in the WSAs would be allowed if deemed necessary by state and federal agencies. Improvements must both enhance wilderness values and meet the minimum tool criteria identified in the Wilderness Management Plan.

No new road construction would be involved in the development or maintenance of any wildlife habitat improvements within the WSAs.

In designated wilderness the following would apply —

— travel by foot or horseback would be the primary means of accessing wildlife habitat improvement projects for design, construction, monitoring and maintenance, for conducting inventory and for monitoring threatened and endangered species.

— if motorized vehicle, including helicopter, is considered the minimum tool for access, authorization by the State Director would be on a case-specific basis.

— inventory of, maintenance of and access to projects (exclosures and water catchments) would involve nonmotorized tools and be on a controlled access scheduled basis according to each Wilderness Management Plan's schedule.

— helicopter recovery of radio-collared bighorn sheep mortalities would be allowed in emergency situations where helicopter is determined to be the minimum tool and upon approval of the Authorized Officer (according to the Memorandum of Understanding between Arizona Game and Fish Department and Arizona Bureau of Land Management).

— power tools would not be allowed for vegetative plantings and construction of water developments and vegetative plantings, although the State Director may approve the use of helicopters for transport of construction materials to a water development site, and of selected power tools for construction/vegetative planting when helicopter and power tool use is considered the minimum tool.

BURRO MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Herd management area plans have been prepared for wild horse and burro management in the Yuma District in accordance with federal regulation 43 CFR 4730.6 under the authority of the *Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971*. The plans are designed to protect, manage and control wild free-roaming horses and burros in a particular area on a sustained-yield basis without resource degradation. Wild horses and burros would continue to be managed in accordance with the herd plans. Excess animals would be removed as necessary to protect the forage resource.

Within the WSAs covered by herd management area plans, wild horses and burros would be captured once a year until the herd management level is reached for that area. After that time, animals would be captured every two to four years on a scheduled basis to maintain the management level.

Motorized vehicles, including helicopters, are the primary tool for access into WSAs for inventory and capture. After designation, temporary traps and corrals would be located outside designated wilderness boundaries. Wild horses and burros would be driven from the units by helicopter and wranglers. The State Director could grant an exception if animals could be trapped only within the unit.

Burro monitoring plots would be allowed within designated wilderness if deemed necessary by the resource area biologists and as authorized by the area manager. Access to plots in designated wilderness would be accomplished by foot or horseback.

Exclosures would be allowed for the duration of the monitoring study, then removed.

LANDS MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Projections of new utility construction within designated corridors are based on probable occurrences. For each corridor, it has been projected that one additional facility of the same kind as facilities already in the corridor would be constructed.

New utilities would not be constructed in corridor segments within designated wilderness areas. Unless otherwise obstructed, the utilities that are proejcted for construction in corridors that overlap WSAs would be displaced to those portions of the corridors outside of the WSAs in the event of wilderness designation.

In cases where existing powerlines form the boundary of designated wilderness areas, access for maintenance would be prevented on the side that adjoins the wilderness.

Unless prevented by wilderness designation, BLM's proposed transfer of a 3,325-acre area presently within the Cactus Plain WSA to the State of Arizona will be implemented.

The new Parker townsite will be developed in T. 7 N., R. 19 W., and T. 8 N., R. 19 W., on lands that are presently either owned by the State of Arizona or identified by BLM for transfer to Arizona. Development for this townsite could extend to portions of the 3,325-acre area within the Cactus Plain WSA that is identified for transfer to Arizona.

Unless prevented by wilderness designation, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will expand its present quarry operations at the north end of the Chemehuevi Mountains. This expansion, which is on Reclamation-withdrawn land, will include the eastern portion of the Chemehuevi Mountains Addition WSA.

LIVESTOCK AND RANGELAND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Development and maintenance of range improvements in the WSAs would be allowed if the improvements met the nonimpairment and minimum tool criteria in the Wilderness Management Policy.

Increases in livestock use would be allowed when multiple-use monitoring data clearly indicate that additional forage is available and can be grazed without impairment of wilderness values or damage to other multiple-use resources or values. Fluctuations in livestock numbers, changes in kind or class of livestock or seasons of use would be possible on all allotments (WO IM No. 87-142; 87-100).

Vehicle use would be subject to the restrictions of the "minimum tool" policy. Restrictions would be placed on the customary use of motorized vehicles by livestock operators for transportation to check on livestock and water facilities, haul salt, conduct monitoring studies and supervise grazing use (AZ-87-55; *BLM Manual 8560*).

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Nine WSAs within Yuma District have one or more of nine grazing allotments and one grazing lease. All ten were established prior to FLPMA and are covered by grandfathered rights.

In the short term, before implementation of allotment management plans (AMPs) and wilderness management plans (WMPs), grazing use on the portions of the grazing allotments and lease within WSAs would be maintained at or below current levels and in accordance with the Yuma District Resource Management Plan (RMP). In the long term, grazing use would be governed by the management prescriptions in the AMPs and WMPs.

Existing range improvement facilities within WSAs would be maintained, as needed, by individual grazing allottees and lessees under provisions of the range improvement permit or cooperative agreement under which each program was authorized and the site-specific management prescriptions contained within the AMP and WMP.

Following are the expected uses and management actions for each WSA. These were determined by BLM specialists from available information and from their own experience.

If a portion of a WSA is recommended for designation as wilderness, all resource uses in the recommended portion will be discussed first and then all resource uses for the nonrecommended portion next.

See Table 2-3 for projected visitor use by alternative.

DEAD MOUNTAINS NORTHERN ADDITION

(AZ-050-01) — 1815 acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-1)

The *Proposed Action* for the Dead Mountains Northern Addition WSA would return 1,815 acres to other multiple use management uses.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 375 visitor days per year (VDY) from 250 now

— be mostly motorized (325 VDY, 87%), e.g., recreational 4-wheeling and hunter access

— include 50 visitor days of nonmotorized use, e.g., day hiking

Motorized visitor use would be restricted to four miles of trails in eight washes.

LAND USE

New construction would be —

— four miles of powerline west of existing line in designated corridor disturbing 10 acres.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-1)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate as wilderness all 1,815 acres.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 50 visitor days per year from 250 now because of closing four miles of trails in eight washes

— all be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, hunting

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

DEAD MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION

(AZ-050-02) — 630 acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-1)

The *Proposed Action* would return the entire 630 acres to other resource uses.

The following uses and management actions are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 300 VDY from 200 now

— be mostly motorized (250 VDY, 83%), e.g., recreational 4-wheeling and hunter access

— 50 VDY of day hiking and similar activities

Motorized visitor use would be restricted to two miles of trails in three desert washes.

LAND USE

Construction of two miles of a major powerline within the half-mile wide corridor in the WSA disturbing 5 acres.

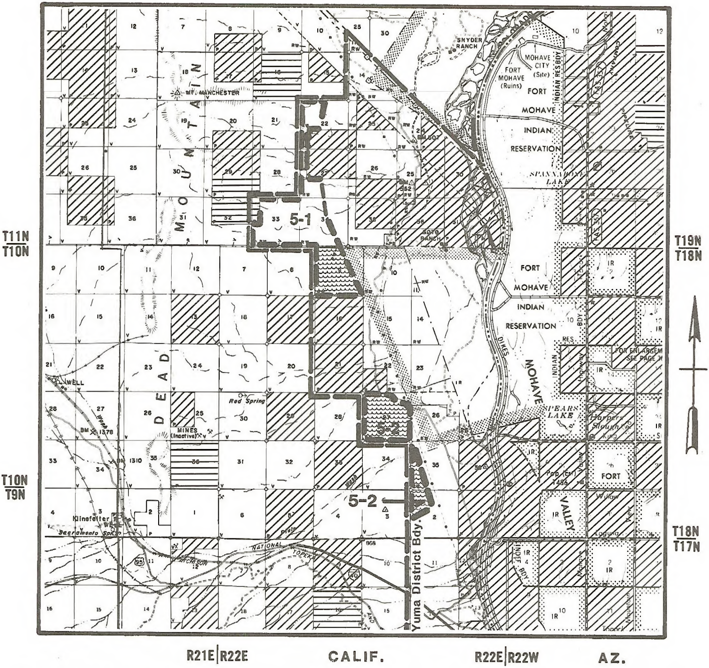
No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-1)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 630 acres as wilderness.

The following uses and management actions are anticipated.

MAP 2-1



WSA ▬ ▬

PUBLIC ☐

STATE ☰

RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ≋

PRIVATE ▨

OTHER ▩

0 1 2 3 4

SCALE IN MILES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District

BASEMAP© ADOT

DEAD MOUNTAINS NORTHERN ADDITION 5-1

ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION: NO WILDERNESS

DEAD MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION 5-2

ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION: NO WILDERNESS

TABLE 2-3

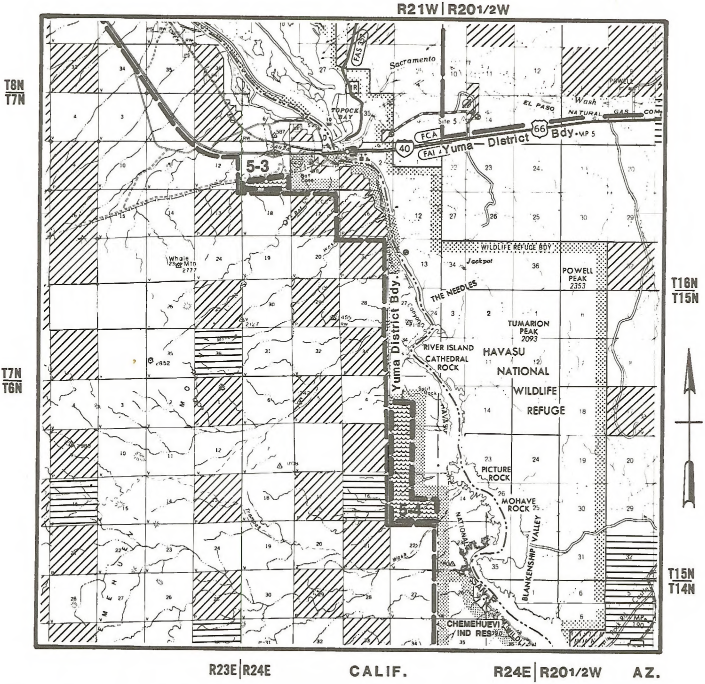
CURRENT AND PROJECTED RECREATION VISITOR USE BY ALTERNATIVE

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District Office, Arizona

	Current Use (VDY)			Projected Use (VDY)	
WSA	Motorized	Non-motorized	Alternative	Motorized	Non-motorized
Dead Mountains Northern Addition	225	25	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	325	50
			All Wilderness	0	50
Dead Mountains Southern Addition	160	40	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	250	50
			All Wilderness	0	50
Chemehuevi Mountains Addition	—	10	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	20
			All Wilderness	0	20
Chemehuevi/Needles Addition	—	10	Proposed Action/All Wilderness	0	20
			No Wilderness	0	20
Needles Eastern Addition	45	5	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	90	10
			All Wilderness	0	50
Crossman Peak	1,250	1,250	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	2,500	2,500
			All Wilderness	0	2,500
			No Wilderness	2,500	2,500
Mohave Wash	1,900	100	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	4,750	250
			All Wilderness	0	250
			No Wilderness	4,750	250
Whipple Mountains Addition	60	40	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	60	95
			All Wilderness	0	100
			No Wilderness	125	75
Gibraltar Mountain	900	100	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	1,350	200
			All Wilderness	0	200
			No Wilderness	1,350	150
Planet Peak	80	20	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	50	200
			All Wilderness	0	200
			No Wilderness	140	35
Cactus Plain	900	100	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	2,500	300
			All Wilderness	0	500
			Enhanced Wilderness	2,500	300
			No Wilderness	2,700	300
Swansea	475	25	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	700	100
			All Wilderness	0	250
			No Wilderness	950	50
East Cactus Plain	0	100	Proposed Action/All Wilderness	0	100
			No Wilderness	0	200
Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition	45	5	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	45	5
			All Wilderness	0	50
Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition	140	60	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	175	75
			All Wilderness	0	125
South Trigo Mountains	250	100	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	325	175
			All Wilderness	0	150
Trigo Mountains	320	480	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	550	700
			All Wilderness	0	675
			Enhanced Wilderness	500	700
			No Wilderness	585	715
Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition	285	15	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	545	30
			All Wilderness	0	50
Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition	140	10	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	50	50
			All Wilderness	0	50
			No Wilderness	285	15
Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition	140	10	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	285	15
			All Wilderness	0	50
Little Picacho Peak Addition	10	190	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	120	380
			All Wilderness	0	400
Muggins Mountains	430	170	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	700	300
			All Wilderness	0	300
			No Wilderness	700	300

Source: Yuma District Files

MAP 2-2



WSA ▬ ▬ PRIVATE ▨

PUBLIC ☐ OTHER ▩

STATE ☰

RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▤

0 1 2 3 4

SCALE IN MILES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District

BASEMAP© ADOT

CHEMEHUEVI MOUNTAINS ADDITION 5-3

ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION: NO WILDERNESS

CHEMEHUEVI/NEEDLES ADDITION 5-4

ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION: ALL WILDERNESS

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 50 VDY from the present 200
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

CHEMEHUEVI MOUNTAINS ADDITION
(AZ-050-03) — 195 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-2)

The *Proposed Action* alternative would return 195 acres to other resource uses.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 20 VDY from the present 10
— be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding
— be confined to the unit's west half to avoid quarry operations.ORV use not expected because of no access.

LAND USE

Land disturbed would be —

— 85 acres by Bureau of Reclamation for a quarry and haul road for riprap in east side of unit
— 2.5 acres from construction and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline south of the existing pipeline within the designated corridor and the WSA

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness (Map 2-2)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 195 acres as wilderness.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would

— increase to 20 VDY from the present 10
— be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

CHEMEHUEVI/NEEDLES ADDITION
(AZ-050-04) — 960 Acres

Proposed Action/All Wilderness (Map 2-2)

The Proposed Action would designate all 960 acres as wilderness.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 20 VDY from the present 10
— be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, small game hunting

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness (Map 2-2)

The No Wilderness alternative would return 960 acres to other resource uses.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 20 VDY from the present 10
— be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, small game hunting

No ORV use because

— area not designated for ORV use in RMP
— no ORV access exists

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

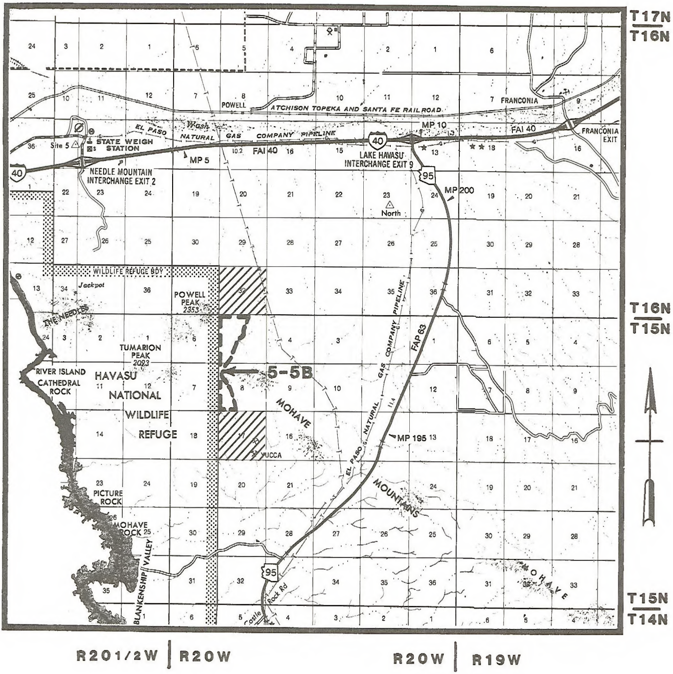
NEEDLES EASTERN ADDITION
(AZ-050-058) — 465 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-3)

The *Proposed Action* would return the entire 465 acres to other resource uses.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

MAP 2-3



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▒
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ░

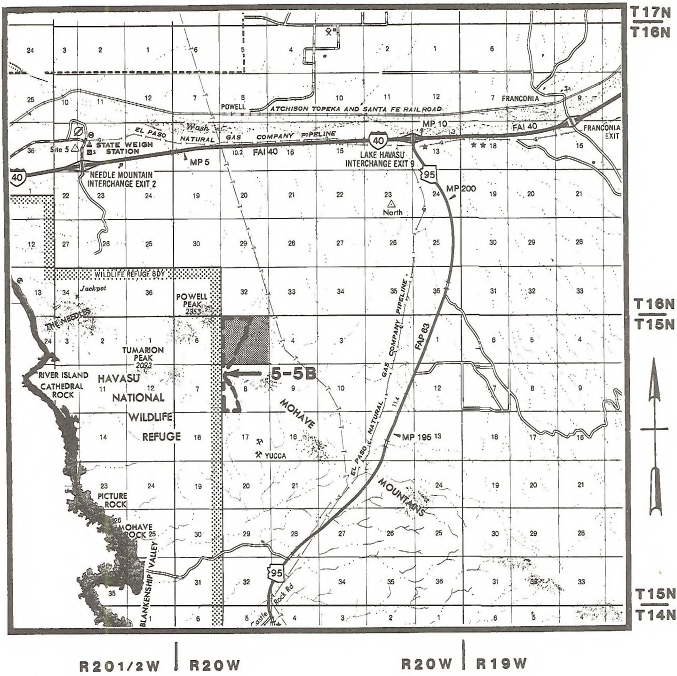
0 1 2 3 4
SCALE IN MILES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
BASEMAP© ADOT

NEEDLES EASTERN
ADDITION 5-5B

ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
NO WILDERNESS

MAP 2-3A



NONFEDERAL MINERAL ▨	**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR** **Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District** BASEMAP© ADOT

NEEDLES EASTERN ADDITION 5-5B

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 100 VDY from less than 90 now
— be mostly motorized (90%) e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, camping and hunter access
— be 10% nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking

ORV use restricted to 0.5 miles on two vehicle ways and a .5-mile trail up a desert wash.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-3)

The All Wilderness alternative would designate all 465 acres as wilderness.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— remain the same at 50 VDY
— be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, small game hunting

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

CROSSMAN PEAK (AZ-050-07B) — 38,630 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness (Map 2-4)

The *Proposed Action* alternative would designate 19,290 acres as wilderness and return the other 19,340 acres to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— allow for power line corridor (500 feet on west)
— allow crucial wildlife habitat improvements to be outside wilderness to facilitate construction and maintenance (east boundary)
— retain highest wilderness quality lands and natural scenic area in designated wilderness

The following uses and actions are anticipated for the designated area.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug[1] 5	small	present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 19 W., sec. 12,	
Ug 5	small	one mile of 12-foot wide road	T. 14 N., R. 19	
Ug	moderate	present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 19 W., sec. 12, E½	50
Ug	moderate	upgrade of .5 mile of 12-foot wide to present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 18 W., sec. 19 and R. 19 W., sec. 24	50
Ug*	moderate	present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 18 W., sec. 30	50
			Total	160

*Reactivate to redevelop the inferred reserves in Dutch Flat mines group

[1] Ug — Underground

RECREATION USE

Seven miles of vehicle ways would be closed to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— increase to 2000 VDY from the present 1000 because of
1) location near Lake Havasu City
2) its topographically imposing mountain range
3) its scenic diversity
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., horseback riding, day hiking, overnight backpacking, sightseeing, wildlife observation and photography

Establish wilderness permit system

— limit visitor party size to 10 people in/near bighorn lambing grounds January 1 to June 30 to protect bighorn lambing activity

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Maintain as necessary —

— one wildlife water catchment
— access by helicopter

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the 19,340 acres returned to other resource uses.

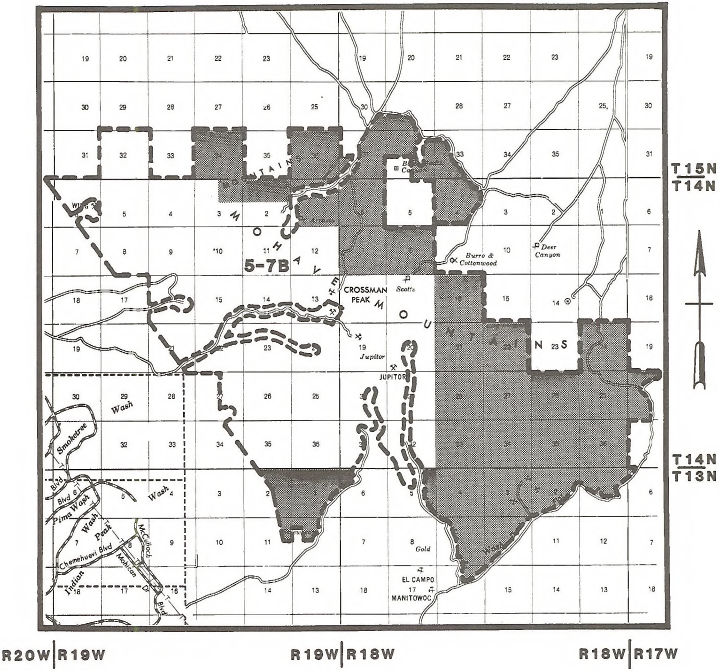
RECREATION USE

Six miles of vehicle ways would remain open to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— increase to 2500 VDY from present 1,250
— be all motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter access, recreational mining, rockhounding and sightseeing

MAP 2-4



NONSUITABLE ▨	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District BASEMAP© ADOT

CROSSMAN PEAK 5-7B

ALTERNATIVES

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Proposed water development would be constructed —

— apron water catchment for bighorn sheep (T. 15 N., R. 18 W., sec. 32, NW¼) disturbing one acre

Tule Springs spring would be maintained.

LAND USE

Maintain existing powerline along western boundary with access from east side.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-5)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate all 38,630 acres as wilderness.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	small	present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 19 W., sec. 12, NW¼	5
Ug	small	one mile of 12-foot wide road	T. 14 N., R. 19 W.,sec. 11	5
Ug (adjacent to Moon Wash)	moderate	T. 14 N., R. 19 W., sec. 12, E½		50
Ug	moderate	upgrade of .5 mile of 12-foot wide to present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 18 W., sec. 19 and R. 19 W., sec. 24	50
Ug*	moderate	present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 18 W., sec. 30	50
			Total	160

*Reactivate to redevelop the inferred reserves in Dutch Flat mines group

RECREATION USES

Thirteen miles of vehicle ways would be closed to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— remain the same — 2500 VDY — as now, but

— would be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, small game hunting, backpacking, horseback riding

— mostly come from nearby Lake Havasu City

Establish wilderness permit system

— limit visitor party size to 10 persons in/near bighorn lambing grounds January 1 to June 30 to protect bighorn lambing activity

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Existing wildlife developments would be maintained, and a proposed water development (a dam or pothole) would be built (T. 15 N., R. 18 W., sec. 32, NW¼) disturbing one acre — both in accordance with the Wilderness Management Policy.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-5)

The No Wilderness alternative would return 38,630 acres to other resource uses.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

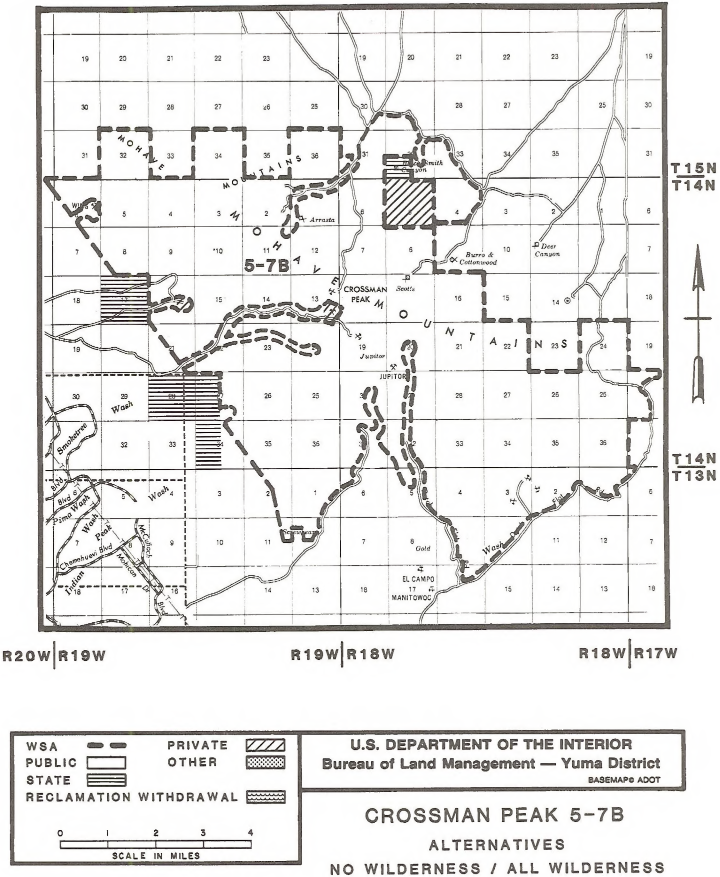
MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	small	present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 19 W., sec. 12, NW¼	5
Ug	small	one mile of 12-foot wide road	T. 14 N., R. 19 W., sec. 11	5
Ug (adjacent to Moon Wash)	moderate	existing vehicle way	T. 14 N., R. 19 W., sec. 12, E½	50
Ug	moderate	upgrade of .5 mile of 12-foot wide to present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 18 W., sec. 19 and R. 19 W., sec. 24	50
Ug*	moderate	present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 18 W., sec. 30	50
Ug*	moderate	present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 18 W., sec. 20	50
Ug*	moderate	present cherrystem	T. 14 N., R. 18 W., sec. 7, W½	50
			Total	260

*Reactivate to redevelop the inferred reserves in Dutch Flat mines group

Three comprehensive exploration programs would disturb six acres.

MAP 2-5



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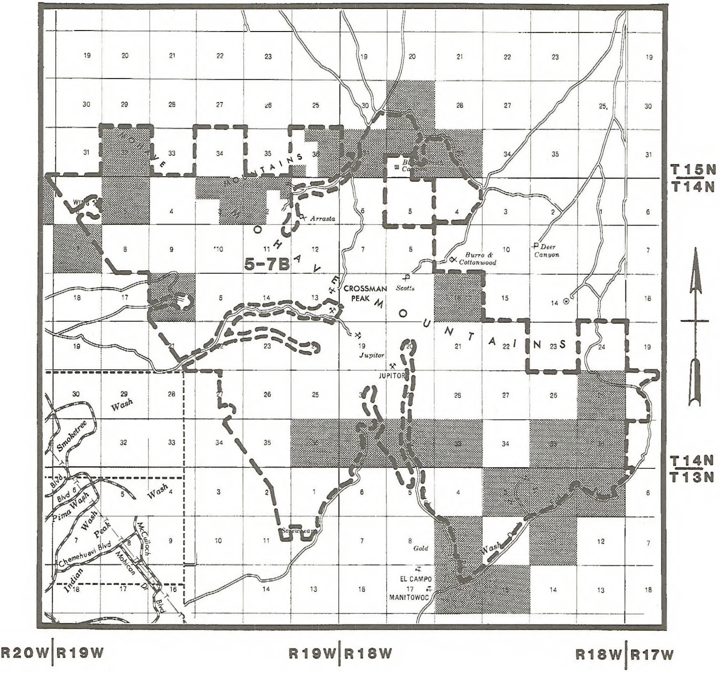
CROSSMAN PEAK 5-7B

ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

MAP 2-5A



NONFEDERAL MINERAL	▨

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CROSSMAN PEAK 5-7B

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 5000 VDY from the present 2500
— be about half vehicle-based, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter access, recreational mining, rockhounding, sightseeing
— be about half nonmotorized, e.g., horseback riding, day hiking, overnight backpacking, sightseeing, wildlife photography

Increases due to —

— nearness of Lake Havasu City
— topographically imposing mountain range
— scenically diverse area

ORV use restricted to existing 13 miles of vehicle ways and part of northern section closed to all ORV use from January 1 to June 30 of each year for bighorn sheep lambing season

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Construction of a new apron water catchment development for bighorn sheep (T. 15 N., R. 18 W., sec. 32, NW¼) disturbing 1 acre.

Present wildlife catchment, spring developments, and the new apron catchment would be maintained, using motorized equipment.

LAND USE

Maintain existing powerline along western boundary with access from east side.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

MOHAVE WASH
(AZ-050-070/050-48/020-52)
103,365 Acres

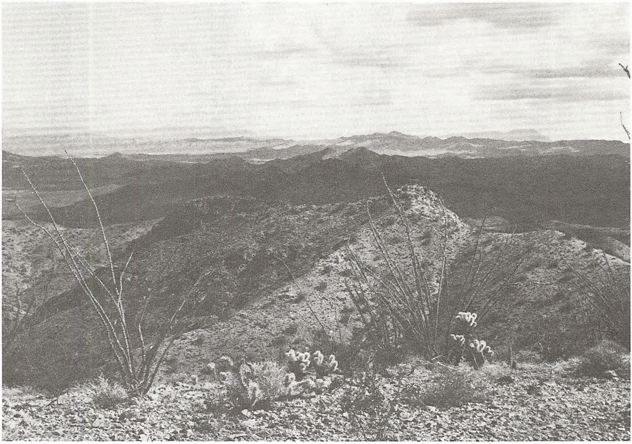
Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-6)

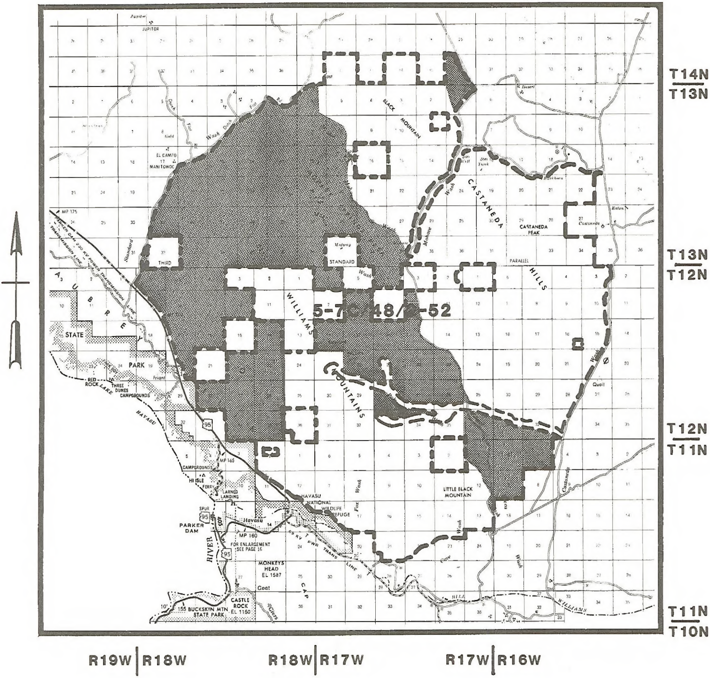
The *Proposed Action* would designate 55,018 acres as wilderness and return 48,347 acres to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— allow cherrystemming of vehicle ways used for public access
— follow geographic features
— exclude existing wildlife water catchments from designated area to allow for maintenance access by vehicle
— allow easy access to nearby developed areas near west boundary
— eliminate areas with highest mineral potential from wilderness designation



MAP 2-6



NONSUITABLE	▨

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MOHAVE WASH 5-7C/48/2-52

ALTERNATIVES
PARTIAL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
PARTIAL WILDERNESS

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the portion designated as wilderness.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Two general exploration programs would be conducted in —

— Northern corner of Castaneda Hills, sections 19 and 25, disturbing 0.5 acres
— Sections 1, 8 and 12 of Little Black Mountain area, disturbing 1 acre

RECREATION USE

Ten miles of vehicle ways would be closed to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— increase to 250 VDY from the present 100
— be nonmotorized, e.g., horseback riding, day hiking, overnight backpacking, sightseeing, wildlife observation photography
— account for about 5% of the recreational use of the WSA

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Release of bighorn sheep in the unit —

— to establish and maintain a healthy and stable herd
— would require use of helicopters and motor vehicles
— release size is 15-25 animals
— frequency averages 3-year intervals

Existing development to be maintained in designated area —

— one apron water catchment
— one pothole development

Developments to be built —

— one pothole development (T. 13 N., R. 17 W., sec. 17, SE¼) disturbing .5 acre
— redesign of one apron water catchment as dam or pothole (T. 12 N., R. 17 W., sec. 19, SW¼) disturbing 0.5 acres
— total disturbance of one acre

All work to be in compliance with Wilderness Management nonimpairment criteria.

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the 48,347 acres returned to other resource uses.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su[1]	moderate	cherrystemmed road	T. 12 N., R. 17 W., sec. 26 S½, sec. 34 N½	300
Su	small	cherrystemmed road	T. 12 N., R. 17 W., sec. 28 SW¼	50
			Total	350

[1] Su — Surface mine

One comprehensive exploration program would be conducted in the Paloma Wash area, disturbing 3.0 acres.

RECREATION USE

Forty miles of vehicle ways would remain open to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— increase to 4,750 VDY from the present 1,500 to 2,000
— be mostly vehicle-based, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter access, recreational mining, rockhounding, vehicle based camping, and sightseeing

ORV use allowed except a portion closed for bighorn sheep lambing each year between January 1 and June 30.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Existing wildlife water developments to be maintained in area returned for other resource uses —

— one apron water catchment
— one spring development which would be improved by buried collection box with pipeline leading to a storage tank

New wildlife water developments to be built —

— one apron catchment (T. 13 N., R. 17 W., sec. 31, NW¼) disturbing 1.5 acres
— one pothole development (T. 12 N., R. 18 W., sec. 14, NE¼) disturbing 0.5 acres
— total disturbance of two acres
— construction and maintenance using appropriate motorized and nonmotorized equipment

LAND USE

A new powerline section (three miles) would be built in the 0.5-mile-wide portion of the corridor that is in the WSA, disturbing 7.5 acres.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-7)

The All Wilderness alternative would designate the entire 103,365 acres as wilderness.

The following uses and actions are anticipated

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	moderate	cherrystemmed road	T. 12 N., R. 17 W., sec. 26 S½, sec. 34 N½	300

One comprehensive exploration program would be conducted in the Paloma Wash cherrystem area disturbing five acres. This exploration would lead to development of the above described mine.

RECREATION USE

Fifty miles of vehicle ways would be closed.

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 250 VDY from the present 1,500 to 2,000
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, small game hunting, backpacking

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Release of bighorn sheep in the unit —

— to establish and maintain a healthy and stable herd
— would require use of helicopters and motor vehicles
— release size is 15-25 animals
— frequency averages 3-year intervals

Currently in designated area and to be maintained are —

— two apron water catchments
— one pothole development
— one spring

To be built —

— added to one spring — buried collection box with pipeline to a storage tank)
— two new dams or pothole developments (T. 13 N., R. 17 W., sec. 17, SE¼ and T. 12 N., R. 18 W., sec. 14, NE¼)
— redesign of two apron water catchments as dams or potholes (T. 12 N., R. 17 W., sec. 19, SW¼ and T. 13 N., R. 17 W., sec. 31, NW¼)

All work to be in compliance with Wilderness Management nonimpairment criteria disturbing three acres total.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-7)

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative all 103,365 acres would be returned to other resource uses.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Type	Size	Access	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	moderate	Paloma Wash road	T. 12 N., R. 17 W., sec. 26 S½, sec. 34 N½	300
Su	small	Paloma Wash road	T. 12 N., R. 17 W., sec. 28 S½	50
			Total	350

Two general exploration programs would be conducted —

— northern portion of Castaneda Hills, sections 19 and 25 disturbing 0.5 acres
— sections 1, 8 and 12 of Little Black Mountain disturbing one acre

Two comprehensive exploration programs would be conducted —

— Paloma Wash area sections 26 and 34 disturbing 5.0 acres
— Paloma Wash area section 28 disturbing 2.5 acres

RECREATION USE ACTIONS

Visitor use would —

— increase to 5,000 VDY from the present 1,500 to 2,000
— be mostly (95%) motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter access, recreational mining, rockhounding, vehicle-based camping, sightseeing
— be about 5% nonmotorized, e.g., horseback riding, day hiking, overnight backpacking, sightseeing, wildlife observation, photography
— increase in nonmotorized also to 250 from about 100 now

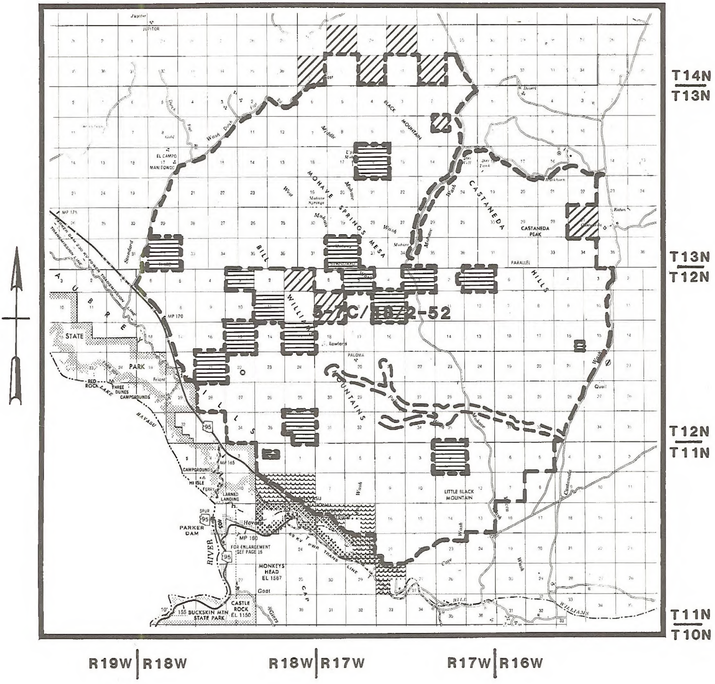
ORV use would be restricted to the existing 50 miles of vehicle ways and further restricted from January 1 to June 30 of each year in one portion because of bighorn sheep lambing area.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Release of bighorn sheep in the unit —

— to establish and maintain a healthy and stable herd
— would require use of helicopters and motor vehicles
— release size is 15-25 animals
— frequency averages 3-year intervals

MAP 2-7



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▒
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ░

0 1 2 3 4
SCALE IN MILES

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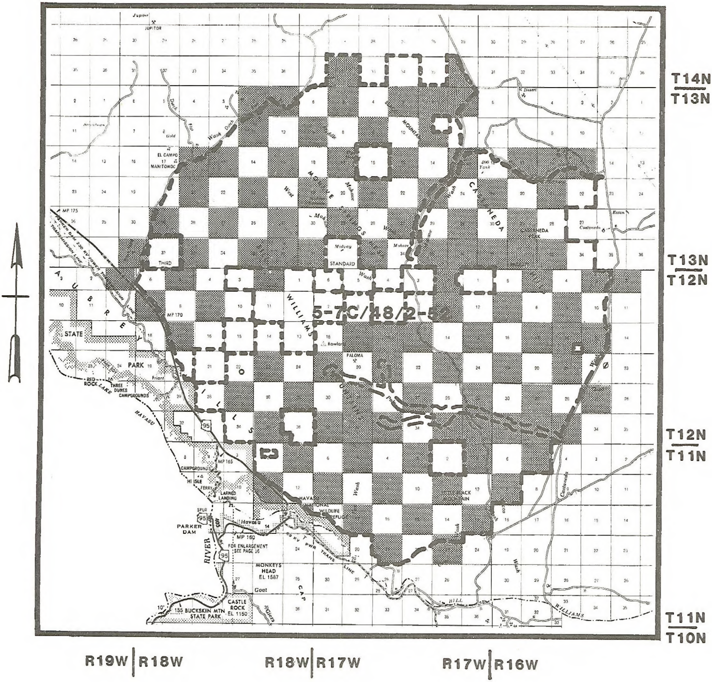
MOHAVE WASH 5-7C/48/2-52

ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

MAP 2-7A



NONFEDERAL MINERAL ▨	**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR** **Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District** BASEMAP© ADOT

MOHAVE WASH 5-7C/48/2-52

Currently in designated area and to be maintained are —

— two apron water catchments
— one pothole development
— one spring

To be built —

— two apron water catchments (T. 12 N., R. 17 W., sec. 19, SW¼ and T. 13 N., R. 17 W., sec. 31, NW¼)
— added to one spring — buried collection box with pipeline to a storage tank)
— two new dams or pothole developments (T. 13 N., R. 17 W., sec. 17, SE¼ and T. 12 N., R. 18 W., sec. 14, NE¼)

Total disturbance is eight acres.

LAND USE

A new powerline section (three miles) would be built in the 1/2-mile-wide portion of the corridor that is in the WSA, disturbing 7.5 acres.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

WHIPPLE MOUNTAINS ADDITION (AZ-050-10) — 1,380 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness (Map 2-8)

The *Proposed Action* would designate 1,260 acres as wilderness and return 120 acres to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— allow for powerline right-of-way (500 feet on east)

The following actions are expected in the designated 1,260 acres.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	0.75 mile of 12-foot new and upgraded road	T. 3 N., R. 26 E., sec. 21, E¼, and sec. 27, NW¼	50

Development concurrent with activities on contiguous private lands.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase from 40 to 95 VDY
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, sightseeing, bighorn sheep viewing, photography, backpacking

The following uses and actions are expected in the nondesignated 120 acres.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— remain at 60 VDY
— be all motorized

LAND USE

Maintenance access —

— permitted from west side of current powerline right-of-way along eastern boundary

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-9)

The *Proposed Action* would designate all 1,380 acres as wilderness.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	0.75 mile of 12-foot new and upgraded road	T.3 N., R.26 E., sec 21, SE¼, sec 27, NW¼(SBM)	50

Development concurrent with activities on contiguous private lands.

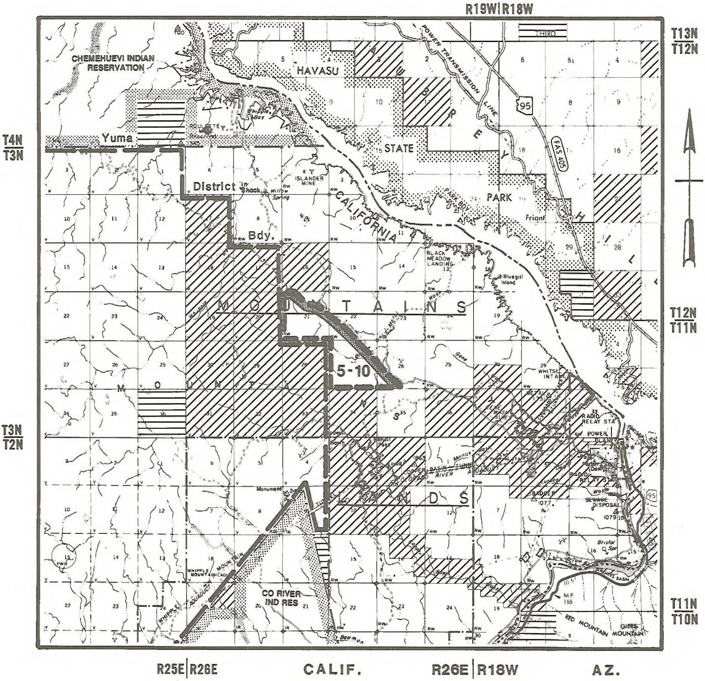
RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— remain at 100 VDY
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, sightseeing, bighorn sheep viewing, photography, backpacking

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

MAP 2-8



NONSUITABLE ▨	**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR** **Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District** BASEMAP© ADOT

WHIPPLE MOUNTAINS 5-10

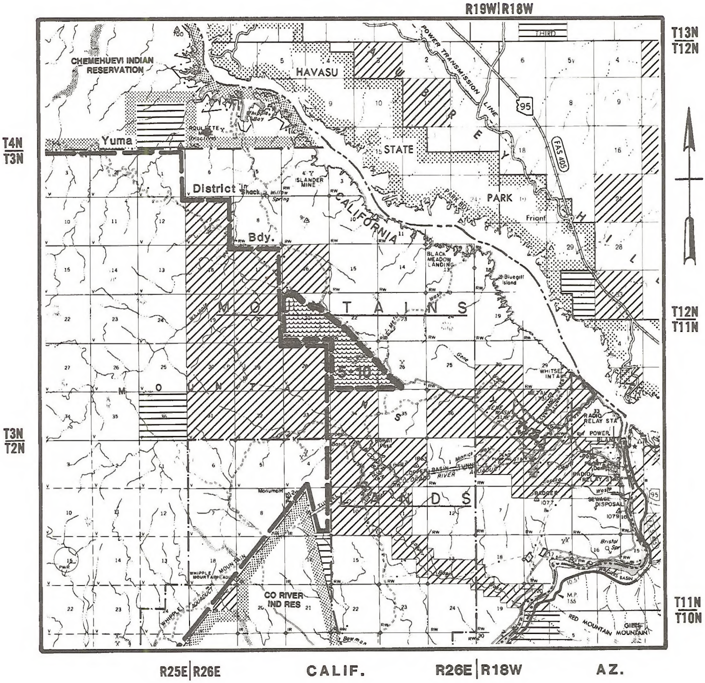
ALTERNATIVES

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

MAP 2-9



WSA ▬ ▬ PRIVATE ▨
PUBLIC ☐ OTHER ▒
STATE ▤
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▦

0 1 2 3 4
SCALE IN MILES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
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WHIPPLE MOUNTAINS 5-10
ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-9)

No Wilderness alternative would return all 1,380 acres to other resource uses.

The following uses and actions are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	0.75 mile of 12-foot new and upgraded road	T.3 N., R.26 E., sec 21, SE¼	50
Su	moderate	1 mile of 12-foot new and upgraded road	T.3 N., R.26 E., sec. 27, NW¼(SBM)	300
			Total	350

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 200 VDY from the present 100
— be 60% motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter access
— be 40% nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, bighorn sheep viewing, photography, rockhounding

ORV use restricted to about one mile of vehicle ways in desert washes and 1.75 miles of new mining roads.

LAND USE

Allow powerline maintenance access from west side of electrical powerline which forms eastern boundary of unit.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN
(AZ-050-12) — 25,260 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness
(Map 2-10)

The *Proposed Action* alternative would designate 15,675 acres as wilderness and return 9,585 acres to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— reduce conflicts with high potential mineral areas on west boundary
— improve recreation access on southwest boundary
— improve recreation access and reduce conflicts with high potential mineral areas on eastern boundary

The following uses and actions are expected in the designated area.

RECREATION USE ACTIONS

Closure of 6 miles of vehicle ways to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— remain the same at 100 VDY
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, bighorn sheep viewing, photography, rockhounding

Establish wilderness permit system.

— limit visitor party size to maximum of 10 people in/near bighorn sheep lambing grounds January 1 to June 30 to protect bighorn lambing activity

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Occasional cleaning and resealing a tunnel water catchment in southern part — access by foot or horseback

The following uses and actions are expected in the undesignated 9,585 acres.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot wide road	T. 10 N., R. 18 W., sec 21, NW¼ and sec 20	50
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of new 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 18 W., sec 19 and 30	50
Ug	small	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide new road	T.10 N., R.17 W., sec 30, S½	5
			Total	105

All locations are GSRM.

Two comprehensive exploration programs at T. 10 N., R. 18 W., sections 19, 20 and 21, disturbing three acres and T. 10 N., R. 17 W., section 30, disturbing one acre.

RECREATION USE ACTIONS

Visitor use would —

— increase to 1450 VDY from the present 1,000
— be 93% (1,350 VDY) motorized, e.g., 4-wheeling and hunter access
— be 6% (100 VDY) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking,, bighorn sheep viewing, photography, rockhounding

Leave 11 miles of vehicle ways open to ORV use.

LAND USE

New powerline (2½ miles) would be built in the 1/2-mile-wide portion of the corridor that is in the part of the WSA not designated as wilderness, disturbing 6.25 acres.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-11)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate as wilderness all 25,260 acres.

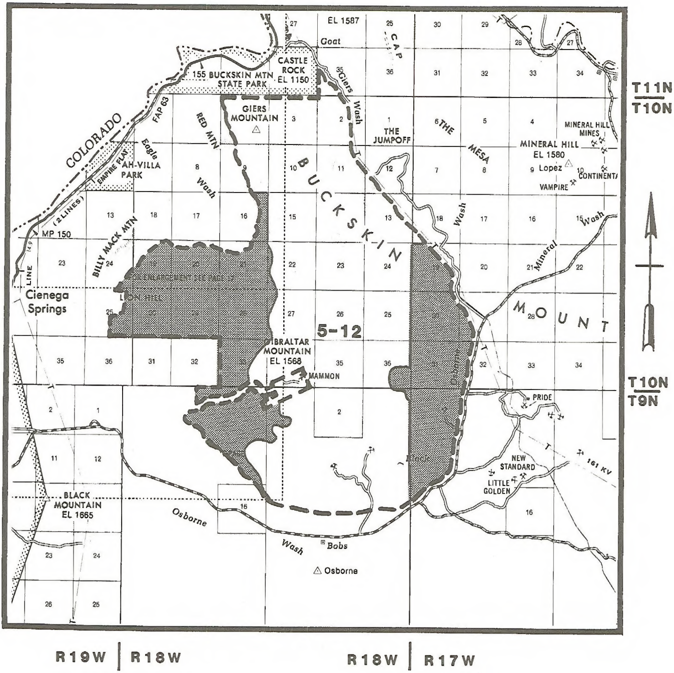
The following uses and actions are expected on the 25,260 designated acres.

MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot wide road	T.10 N., R. 18 W., sec 21, NW¼, and sec 20	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of new 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 18 W., sec 19	5
Ug	small	1.0 mile of new 2-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 18 W., sec 30	5
Ug	small	0.5 mile of 12-foot wide new road	T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec 30, S½	5
			Total	65

General exploration program in section 21, disturbing 0.75 acre.

MAP 2-10



NONSUITABLE ▨

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GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN 5-12

ALTERNATIVES
PARTIAL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
PARTIAL WILDERNESS

RECREATION USE ACTIONS

Closure of 17 miles of vehicle ways to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 200 VDY from the current 500 to 1000
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, hunting, bighorn sheep viewing, photography, backpacking

Establish wilderness permit system.

— limit visitor party size to 10 people in/near bighorn sheep lambing grounds January 1 to June 30 to protect bighorn lambing activity

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Occasional cleaning and resealing a tunnel water catchment in southern part — access by foot or horseback.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-11)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return all 25,260 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot wide road	T. 10 N., R. 18 W., sec 21, NW¼ and sec 20	50
Ug	small (three)	1.0 mile of new 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 18 W., sec 19 and 30	5 (x 3)=15
Su	moderate	4.0 miles of new 20-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 18 W., sec 26, SW½	300
Ug	small	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide new road	T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec 30, S½	5
			Total	370

Two general exploration programs on the central north-south core, disturbing three acres.

Two comprehensive programs as described in *Partial Wilderness* alternative, disturbing four acres.

RECREATION USE ACTIONS

Visitor use would —

— increase to 1450 VDY from the present 500 to 1,000
— be 90% (1,350 VDY) motorized, e.g., 4-wheeling and hunter access
— be 10% (150 VDY) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking,, bighorn sheep viewing, photography, rockhounding

ORV use would be —

— limited to the 17 miles of vehicle ways
— prohibited in some of the ridge area between January 1 and June 30 of each year for bighorn sheep lambing season

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Occasional cleaning and resealing a tunnel water catchment in southern part — access by foot or horseback

LAND USE

New powerline (seven miles) would be built in the 1/2-mile wide portion of the corridor within the WSA, disturbing 17.5 acres.

PLANET PEAK
(AZ-050-13) — 17,645 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness
(Map 2-12)

The *Proposed Action* would designate 16,430 acres as wilderness and would return 1,215 acres to other resource uses.

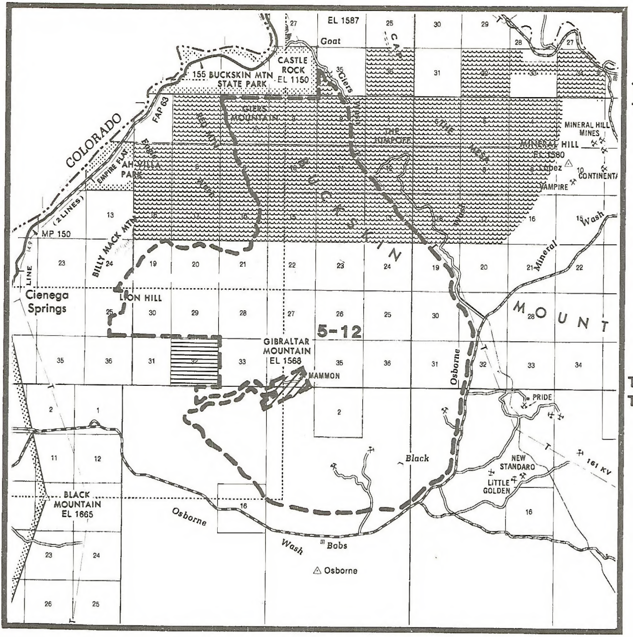
The proposed boundaries were established to allow most mineral development on eastern side.

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the designated area.

MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide upgrading on a cherrystem road	T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec 14, N½	5
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec 23	5
			Total	10

MAP 2-11



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▒
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▩

0 1 2 3 4
SCALE IN MILES

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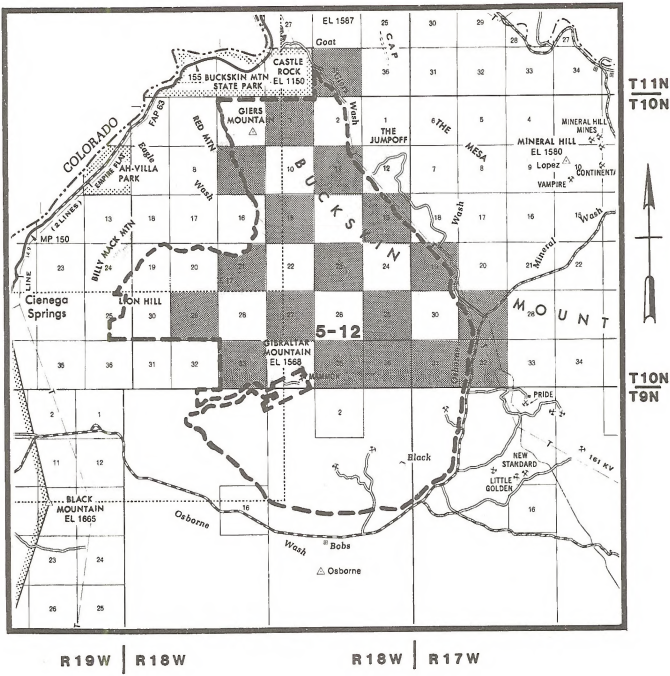
GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN 5-12

ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

MAP 2-11A



NONFEDERAL MINERAL ▨

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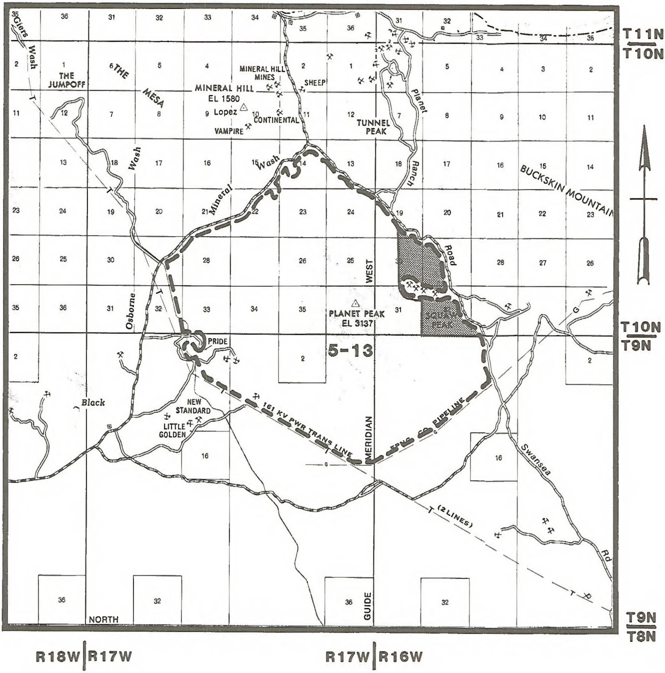
GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN 5-12

MAP 2-12



NONSUITABLE ▨	**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR** **Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District** BASEMAP© ADOT

PLANET PEAK 5-13

ALTERNATIVES

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

Mining claims would be developed in the Pride Mining Area.

Continued exploration would be curtailed.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 180 VDY from the present 80
— be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, photography, rockhounding

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Maintain and increase bighorn sheep numbers, including enhancing area as a potential lambing ground.

Motorized vehicles and helicopters required for access.

Build two burro-restricted pothole developments for bighorn sheep and other wildlife (T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec. 26, NE¼SW¼ and T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 31, NE¼SW¼), disturbing 1.0 acre.

Maintain these and existing tunnel and water catchment using minimum tools (motorized vehicles or helicopters).

The following uses and actions are expected in the 1,215 acres returned to other resource uses.

MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 29, 30	50

Two comprehensive exploration programs in sections 29, 30 and 32, disturbing 2.0 acres.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-13)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate all 17,695 acres as wilderness.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 29, 30	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide upgrading on a cherrystem road	T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec. 14, N½	5
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N.,R. 17 W., sec. 23, NW¼	5
			Total	60

Mining claims would be developed in the Pride Mining Area prior to designation.

Continued exploration would be curtailed.

RECREATION USE ACTIONS

Close 3-mile vehicle way to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— increase to 200 from the present 80
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, small game hunting backpacking

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Maintain and increase bighorn sheep numbers, including enhancing area as a potential lambing ground.

Motorized vehicles and helicopters required for access.

Build two burro-restricted pothole developments for bighorn sheep and other wildlife (T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec. 26, NE¼SW¼ and T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 31, NE¼SW¼, disturbing 1 acre.

Maintain these and existing tunnel and water catchment using minimum tools (motorized vehicles or helicopters).

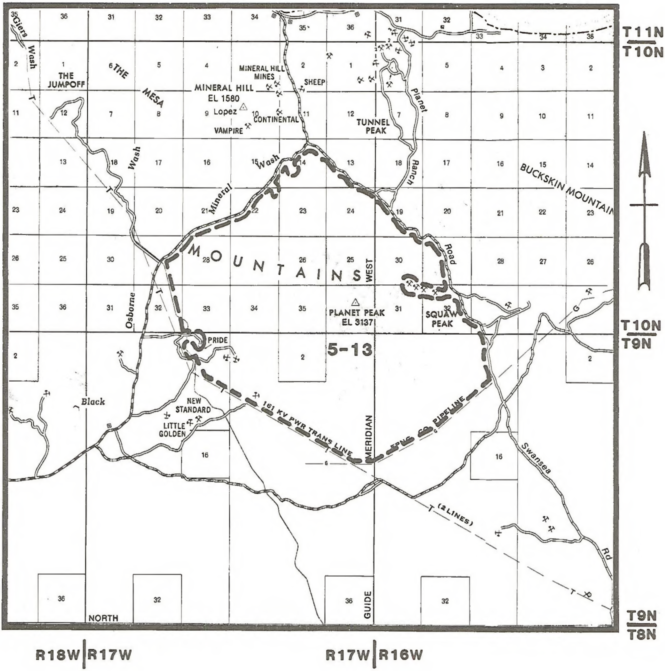
No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness (Map 2-13)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return all 17,645 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MAP 2-13



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ☰
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▒
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▤

0 1 2 3 4
SCALE IN MILES

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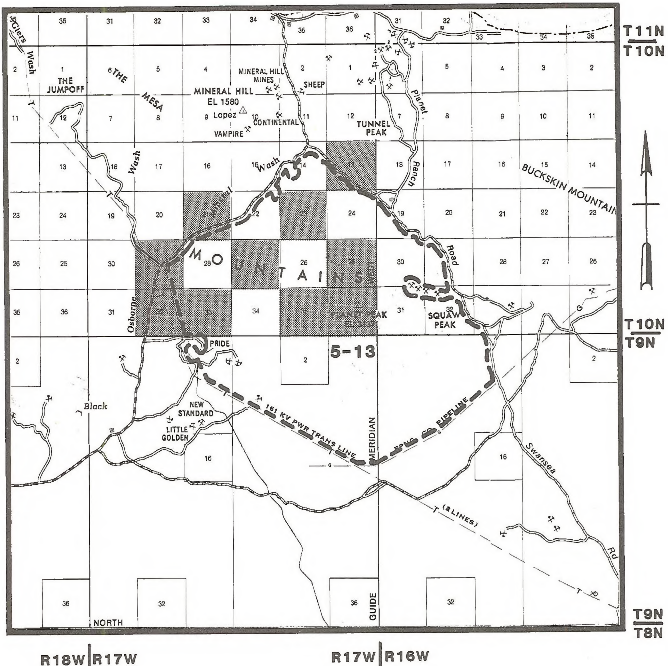
PLANET PEAK 5-13

ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

MAP 2-13A



NONFEDERAL MINERAL ▨	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District BASEMAP© ADOT

PLANET PEAK 5-13

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 29, 30, 32	50
Ug	moderate	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec. 33	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide upgrading on a cherrystem road	T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec. 14, NW¼	5
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N.,R. 17 W., sec 23	5
Ug	small	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec 30, W½	5
			Total	115

Three exploration programs would be conducted —

— two comprehensive exploration programs in sections 29 and 30, disturbing 4 acres

— one comprehensive exploration program in sections 14 and 23, disturbing 2 acres

RECREATION USE

A 3-mile vehicle way would remain open to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— increase to 175 VDY from the present 100
— be mostly (140 VDY — 80%) motorized, e.g., 4-wheeling and hunter access
— be partly (35 VDY) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, photography, rockhounding

ORV use would be limited to existing vehicle ways.

Part of unit would be off limits to ORVs during bighorn sheep lambing season (January 1 to June 30 of each year)

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Maintain and increase bighorn sheep numbers, including enhancing area as a potential lambing ground.

Motorized vehicles and helicopters required for access.

Build two burro-restricted pothole developments for bighorn sheep and other wildlife (T. 10 N., R. 17 W., sec. 26, NE¼SW¼ and T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 31, NE¼SW¼), disturbing 0.5 acre each for a total of 1 acre.

Maintain these and existing tunnel and water catchments as necessary.

LAND USE

New 5-mile section of powerline would built in the 0.5-mile corridor inside southwest WSA boundary, disturbing 12.5 acres.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

CACTUS PLAIN
(AZ-050-14A/B) — 70,360 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-14)

The *Proposed Action* would designate 62,325 acres as wilderness and return 8,035 to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— allow development of high mineral potential land in the northwest part
— facilitate motorized access to range improvements in northern part
— avoid conflict with Native American spiritual values associated with Black Peak
— use Osborne Wash as part of the boundary
— accommodate the transfer of 3,325 acres to the State of Arizona
— accommodate development in a designated utility corridor along the western boundary

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the designated area.

RECREATION USE

Closure of two miles of vehicle ways to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— increase to 255 VDY from the present 80
— be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, sightseeing (much of this new use would be in the western part as a result of the new Parker townsite

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Entire designated area (62,325 acres) would be managed for wildlife habitat.

No water developments present nor any planned.

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the lands returned to other resource uses.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 9 N., R. 19 W., sec. 13, E½	50
Ug	small	existing cherrystem road	T. 8 N., R. 17 W., sec. 34, S½*	5
			Total	55

Two general exploration programs in sections 13 and 24, disturbing 1 acre.

*(much of the activity associated with this mine would take place outside the WSA)

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 2,550 VDY from the present
— be mostly (98%) motorized, e.g., 4-wheeling, hunter access
— include some (50 VDY) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, sightseeing

LAND USE

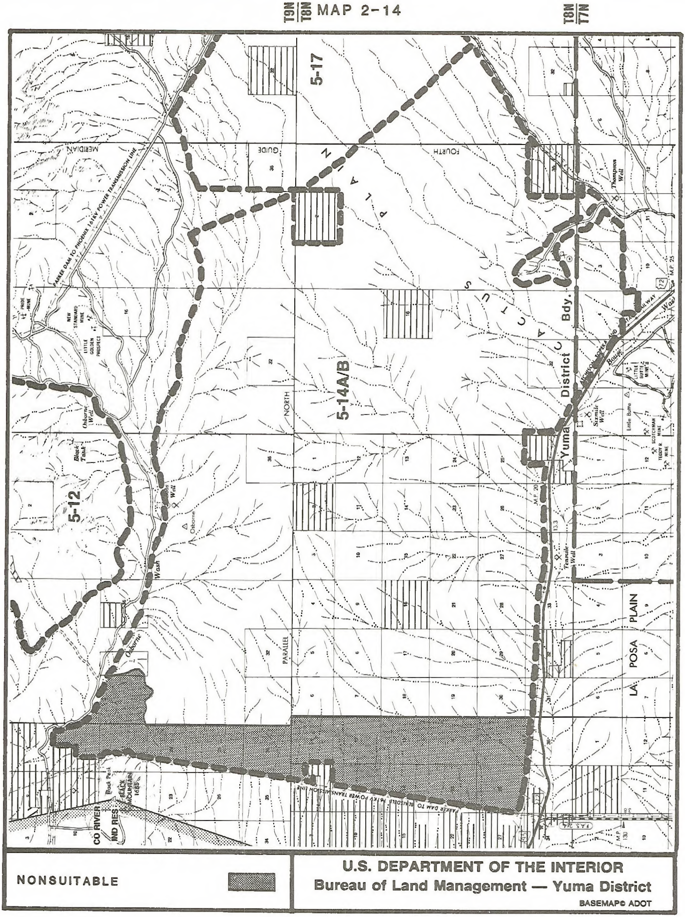
New 10-mile section of a major powerline would be built in the 0.5-mile-wide utility corridor inside the western WSA boundary line. Transfer of 3,325 acres (4.9% of entire WSA) State of Arizona, and

— twenty acres of transferred land would be developed for commercial and residential use as part of Parker townsite

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness (Map 2-15)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 70,360 acres as wilderness.



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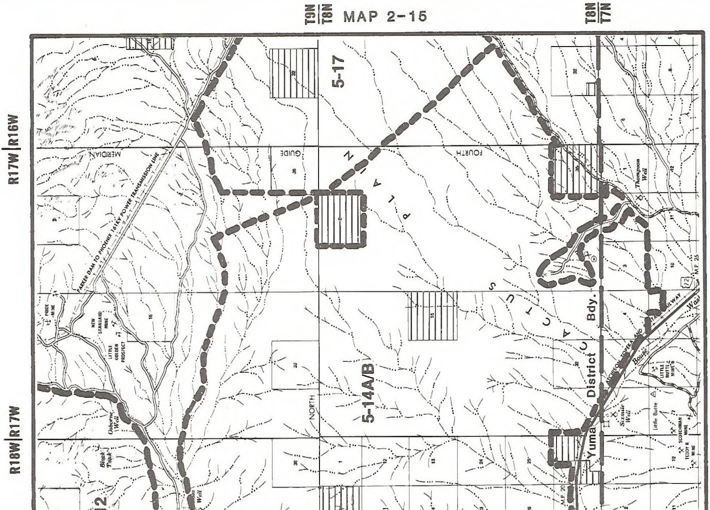
CACTUS PLAIN 5-14A/B

ALTERNATIVES

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION

PARTIAL WILDERNESS



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▒
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▦

0 1 2 3 4
SCALE IN MILES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CACTUS PLAIN 5-14A/B

ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 9 N., R. 19 W., sec. 13, E½	50
Ug	small	existing cherrystem road	T. 8 N., R. 17 W., sec. 34, S½*	5
			Total	55

*(much of the activity associated with this mine would take place outside the WSA)

RECREATION USE

Closure of 12.2 miles of vehicle ways to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 500 VDY from the present 1,000
— be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, small game hunting, backpacking, sightseeing

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Entire designated area (70,360 acres) would be managed for wildlife habitat.

No water developments present nor none planned.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

Enhanced Wilderness (Map 2-16)

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would designate 65,330 acres as wilderness and return 5,030 to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— allow development of high mineral potential land in the northwest part
— facilitate motorized access to range improvements in northern part
— avoid conflict with Native American spiritual values associated with Black Peak
— use Osborne Wash as part of the boundary
— accommodate the transfer of 3,325 acres to the State of Arizona

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the designated area.

RECREATION USE

Closure of two miles of vehicle ways to ORV use.

Visitor use would —

— increase to 255 VDY from the present 80
— be nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, sightseeing (much of this new use would be in the western part as a result of the new Parker townsite

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Entire designated area (65,330 acres) would be managed for wildlife habitat.

No water developments present nor any planned.

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the lands returned to other resource uses.

MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 9 N., R. 19 W., sec. 13, E½	50
Ug	small	existing cherrystem road	T. 8 N., R. 17 W., sec. 34, S½*	5
			Total	55

One general exploration program in section 13, disturbing 0.5 mile.

*(much of the activity associated with this mine would take place outside the WSA)

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

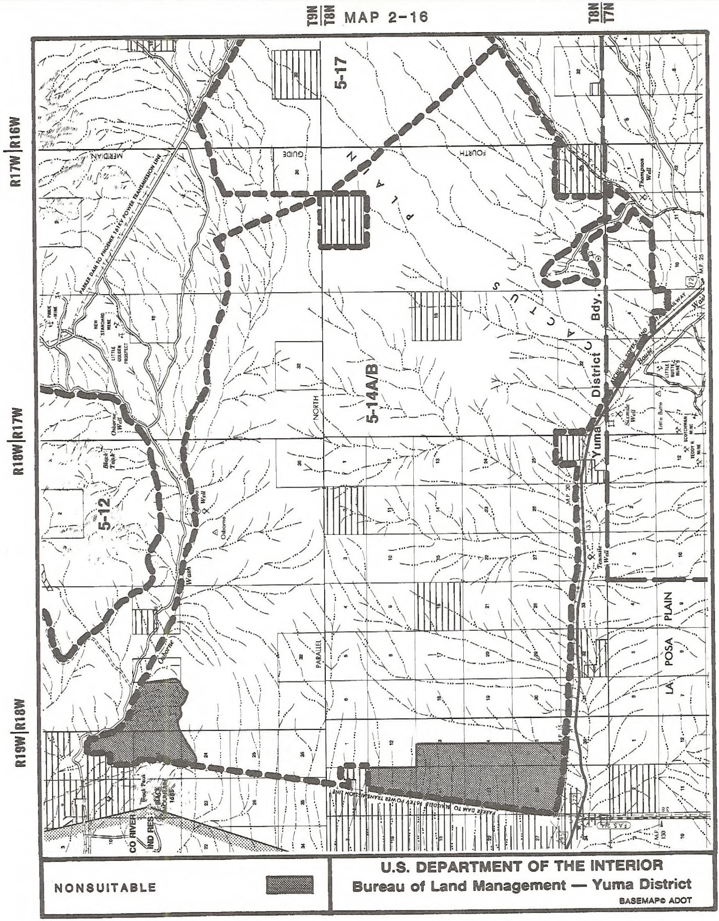
— increase to 2,550 VDY from the present
— be mostly (98%) motorized, e.g., 4-wheeling, hunter access
— include some (50 VDY) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding sightseeing

LAND USE

Transfer of 3,325 acres (4.9% of entire WSA) to State of Arizona, and

— twenty acres of transferred land would be developed for commercial and residential use as part of Parker townsite

MAP 2-16



CACTUS PLAIN 5-14A/B

ALTERNATIVES

ENHANCED WILDERNESS

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness (Map 2-15)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return the entire 70,360 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	moderate (two)	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 9 N., R. 19 W., sec. 13, E½ and 24	300 x 2 = 600
Su	moderate	5.0 miles of 30-foot-wide new road	T. 9 N., R. 18 W., sec. 32, S½	500
Su	small	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 9 N., R. 19 W., sec. 13, E½	50
Ug	small	existing cherrystem road	T. 8 N., R. 17 W., sec. 34, S½*	5
			Total	1,155

*(much of the activity associated with this mine would take place outside the WSA)

A detachment structure similar to Cyprus Copperstone mine thrust fault would be developed (T. 8 and 9 N., R. 18 W.).

Two comprehensive exploration programs in sections 13 and 24, disturbing four acres.

Two comprehensive exploration programs in T. 8 and 9 N., R. 18 W., disturbing five acres.

One general exploration program in T. 2 N., R. 18 W., section 14 and 23, disturbing 0.75 acre.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 3,000 from the present 1,000
— be mostly (2,700 VDY) motorized, e.g., 4-wheeling, hunter access
— include some (300 VDY) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, sightseeing

ORV use restricted to about 12 miles of vehicle ways in desert washes.

Much of this new use would be in the western part as a result of the new Parker townsite.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

58,610 acres would be managed for wildlife habitat.

LAND USE

New 10-mile section of a major powerline would be built in the .5-mile-wide utility corridor inside the western WSA boundary line. Transfer of 3,325 acres (4.9% of entire WSA) to State of Arizona, and

— twenty acres of transferred land would be developed for commercial and residential use as part of Parker townsite

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

SWANSEA

(AZ-050-15A) — 41,680 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-17A)

The *Proposed Action* for the Swansea WSA would designate 11,795 acres as wilderness and would return 29,895 acres to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— provide for motorized recreation access and development of high potential mineral areas on the north and south ends
— ensure wilderness protection for high value riparian areas along the Bill Williams River

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the designated portion.

RECREATION USE

One mile of vehicle way would be closed (1.2 acres).

Visitor use would —

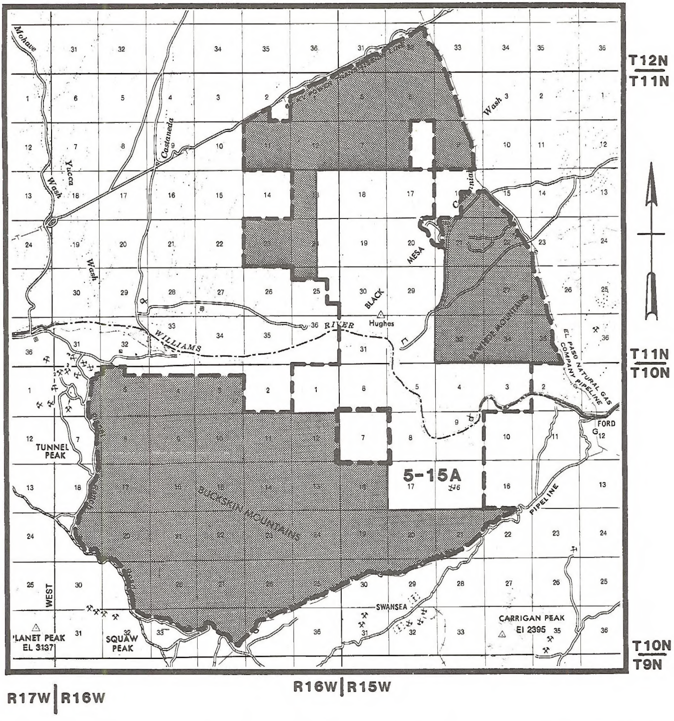
— increase to 50 visitor days per year (VDY) from the present 25
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Rehabilitate the lower five miles of riparian area along the Bill Williams River by —

— planting about 500 cottonwood seedlings and/or poles along the banks (native seed source washed away in 1983 floods and destroyed by overgrazing and trampling of trespass cattle) — providing the cottonwoods that are an essential habitat component for several sensitive bird species in the area

MAP 2-17A



NONSUITABLE ▨	**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR** **Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District** BASEMAP© ADOT

SWANSEA 5-15A

ALTERNATIVE
PARTIAL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
PARTIAL WILDERNESS

— beginning the planting in FY 88 or 89 and maintaining for five years to ensure a stable population
— using horse or foot access and gas-powered augers for tree planting under authorization from the State Director

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the 29,895 acres returned to other resource uses.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 8	300
Su	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 17, SE¼, and sec. 20, NE¼	300
Su	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 26, SE¼	300
Ug	(2 mines)	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 5, S½, and sec. 6	5 x 2 = 10
Ug	small	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 12, E½, R. 15 W., sec. 7, W½	5
			Total	915

Four exploration developments.

Two comprehensive programs in T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sections 8, 17 and 20, disturbing five acres.

One comprehensive exploration program in T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sections 26, 34 and 35, disturbing 1.5 acres.

One general exploration program in T. 10 N., R. 16 W., section 12, disturbing 0.5 acre.

RECREATION USES

Visitor use would —

— increase to 700 VDY from the present 475
— be mostly (93%) motorized, e.g., 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access, short-term vehicle-based camping
— be partly (7%) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding

ORV use would be restricted to about one mile of vehicle ways and several desert washes.

About 1.25 miles of the Parker 400 race course would be realigned parallel to and within the southern boundary of the present WSA disturbing three acres.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

One water development (a pothole) is in northern part and would be maintained.

LAND USE

New seven-mile natural gas pipeline would be built in the 0.5-mile-wide portion of the utility corridor inside the northeast boundary, disturbing 17.5 acres.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-17B)

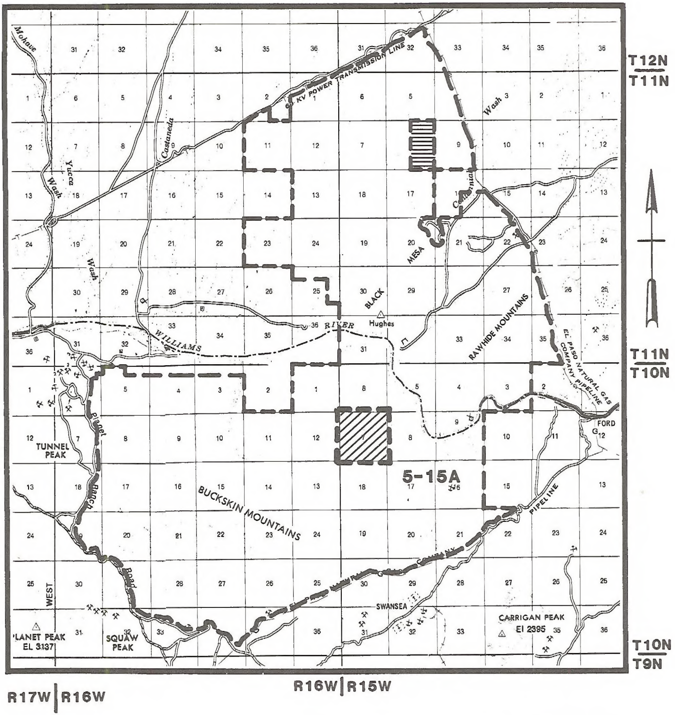
The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate all 41,690 acres as wilderness.

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the designated portion.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 8	300
Su	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 17, SE¼, and sec. 20, NE¼	300
Su	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 26, SE¼	300
Ug	(2 mines)	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 5, S½, and sec. 6	5 x 2 = 10
Ug	small	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 12, E½, R. 15 W., sec. 7, W½	5
			Total	915

MAP 2-17B



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▒
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ≋

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SCALE IN MILES

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Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
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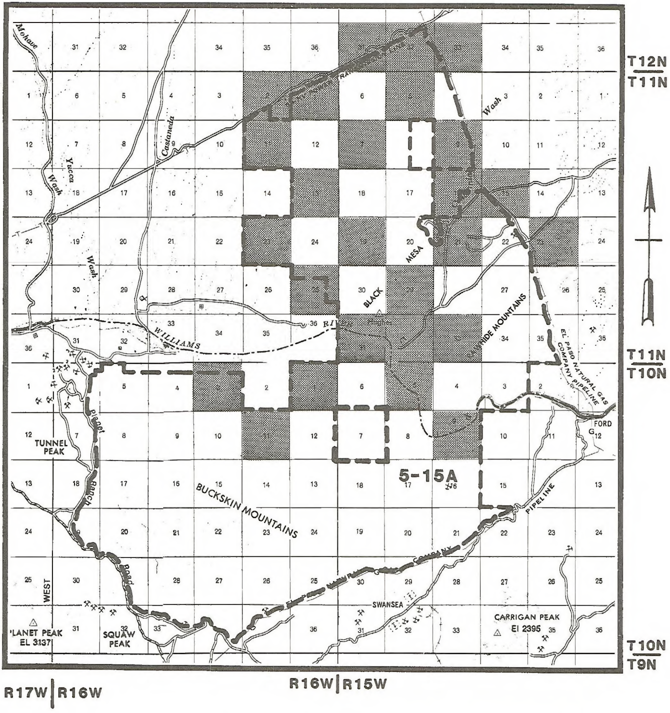
SWANSEA 5-15A
ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

MAP 2-17C



NONFEDERAL MINERAL ▨	**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR** **Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District** BASEMAP© ADOT

SWANSEA 5-15A

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 250 VDY from the present 500
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, small game hunting, trapping, backpacking, sightseeing, float boating

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Rehabilitate the lower five miles of riparian area along the Bill Williams River by —

— planting about 500 cottonwood seedlings and/or poles along the banks (native seed source washed away in 1983 floods and destroyed by overgrazing and trampling of trespass cattle)
— providing the cottonwoods that are an essential habitat component for several sensitive bird species in the area
— beginning the planting in FY 88 or 89 and maintaining for five years to ensure a stable population
— using horse or foot access and gas-powered augers (with State Director approval) for tree planting

The one present development (a pothole) would be maintained without motorized equipment and by foot or by horseback access.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-17B)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return all 41,690 acres to other resource uses.

The following are actions and uses anticipated in the designated portion.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 8	300
Su	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 17, SE¼, and sec. 20, NE¼	300
Su	moderate	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 26, SE¼	300
Ug	(2 mines)	0.75 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 5, S½, and sec. 6	5 x 2 = 10
Ug	small	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 10 N., R. 16 W., sec. 12, E½	5
			Total	915

One general exploration program would be in east portion to determine the extent of gold-bearing alluvium, T. 10 N., R. 15 W., sections 8, 17 and 20, disturbing 1.5 acres.

Two general explorations in the central portion, T. 10 N., R. 15 W., sections 3, 4 and 6, and R. 16 W., section 1, disturbing 1.5 acres.

Also all exploration programs listed under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 1,000 VDY from the present 500
— be mostly (950 VDY — 95%) motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access, short-term camping on the Bill Williams River
— be partly (50 VDY — 5%) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding

ORV use would be restricted to about two miles of vehicle ways and several desert washes.

About 1.25 miles of the Parker 400 race course would be realigned parallel to and within the southern boundary of the present WSA.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Rehabilitate the lower five miles of riparian area along the Bill Williams River by —

— planting about 500 cottonwood seedlings and/or poles along the banks (native seed source washed away in 1983 floods and destroyed by overgrazing and trampling of trespass cattle)
— providing the cottonwoods that are an essential habitat component for several sensitive bird species in the area
— beginning the planting in FY 88 or 89 and maintaining for five years to ensure a stable population
— using motorized vehicle access and gas-powered augers for tree planting

One water development (a pothole) is in northern part and would be maintained.

LAND USE

New seven-mile natural gas pipeline would be built in the 1/2-mile-wide portion of the utility corridor inside the northeast boundary, disturbing 17.5 acres.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

EAST CACTUS PLAIN
(AZ-050-17) — 13,735 Acres

Proposed Action/All Wilderness
(Map 2-18)

The *Proposed Action* would designate all 13,735 acres as wilderness.

The following actions and uses are anticipated for the designated portion.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— remain the same at 100 VDY
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, backpacking, sightseeing

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-18)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return the entire 13,735 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 9 N. R. 16 W., sec. 28, S½	50

Two comprehensive exploration activities would occur prior to designation, disturbing 1.0 acre.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 200 VDY from the present 100
— be 100% (20 VDY) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding, small game hunting

LAND USE

A new powerline (five miles) would be built in the 0.5-mile-wide portion of the corridor that is in the WSA.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS
NORTHERN ADDITION
(AZ-050-18) — 415 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness
(Map 2-19)

The *Proposed Action* would return the 415 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— remain the same at 50 VDY
— be mostly (45 VDY — 90%) motorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding, backpacking, camping

ORV use would be limited to the one existing way crossing the southwest corner.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-19)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 415 acres as wilderness.

RECREATION USE

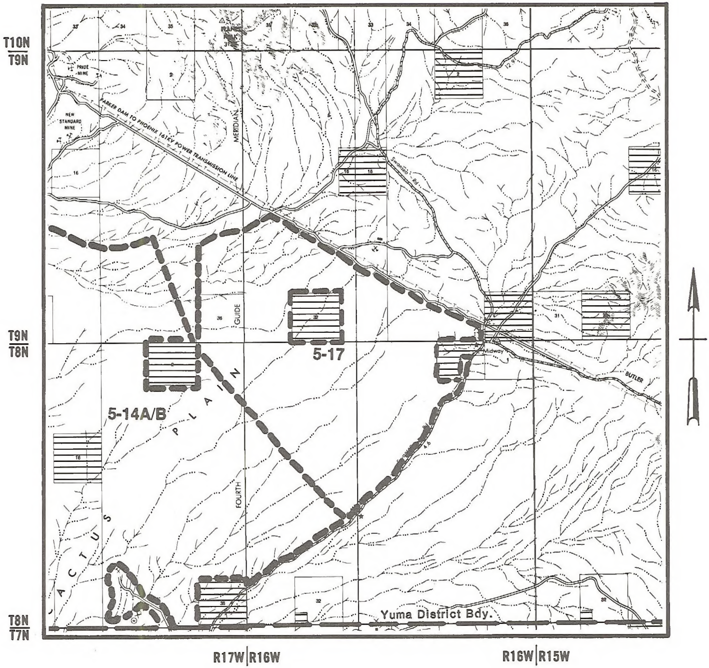
Visitor use would —

— remain at 50 VDY
— be mostly nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, camping

No recreation facilities would be developed within or adjacent to the WSA.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

MAP 2-18



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▒
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▩

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SCALE IN MILES

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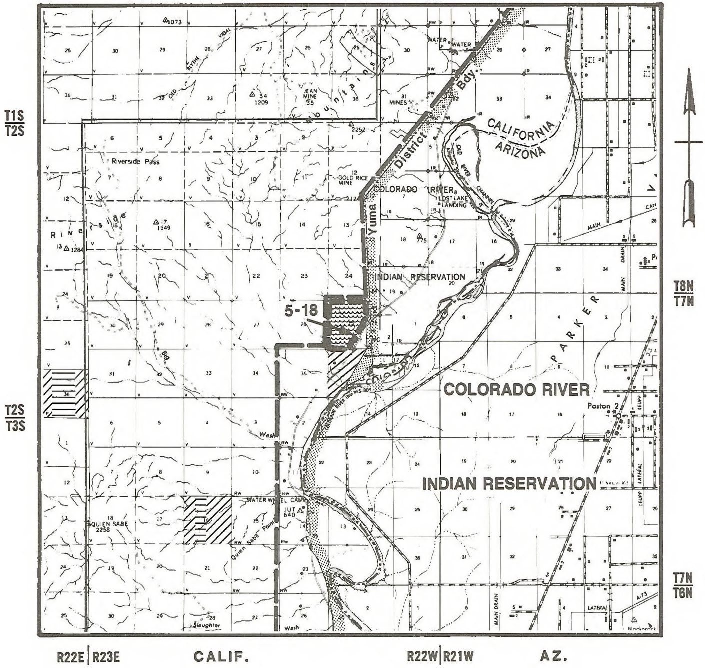
EAST CACTUS PLAIN 5-17

ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
ALL WILDERNESS

MAP 2-19



WSA	▬ ▬	PRIVATE	▨
PUBLIC	☐	OTHER	░
STATE	☰		
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL	≋		

0 1 2 3 4
SCALE IN MILES

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BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS NORTHERN ADDITION 5-18

ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
NO WILDERNESS

BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-19) — 1,420 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness
(Map 2-20)

The *Proposed Action* would return the entire 1,420 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 250 VDY from the present 200
— be mostly (175 VDY — 70%) motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access, vehicle-based camping
— be partly (75 VDY — 30%) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding, backpacking, camping

ORV use would be limited to the 1.5 miles of existing vehicle ways.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-20)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 1,420 acres as wilderness.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 125 VDY from the present 200
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding, backpacking, camping

The 2.5 miles of vehicle ways would be closed to vehicles.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

SOUTH TRIGO MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-23A) — 4,500 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness
(Map 2-21)

The *Proposed Action* would return all 4,500 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	large	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 4 S., R. 23 E., sec. 11, S½, and sec. 14, NE¼	500
Ug	small	1.5 miles of 12-foot-wide road	T. 4 S., R. 23 E., sec. 23	5
Ug	small	2.0 miles of 12-foot-wide road	T. 4 S., R. 23 E., sec. 10	5
			Total	510

Two comprehensive explorations to investigate mineral resources —

— T. 4 S., R. 23 E., sections 11, 14 and 23, disturbing four acres
— T. 4 S., R. 23 E., section 10, disturbing 1.5 acres

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 500 VDY from the present 350
— be mostly (65%) motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access, vehicle-based camping
— be partly (35%) nonmotorized, e.g., ORV use limited to 1.5 miles of horseback riding.

BURRO MANAGEMENT

Herd size would be controlled by periodic roundups of excess animals using —

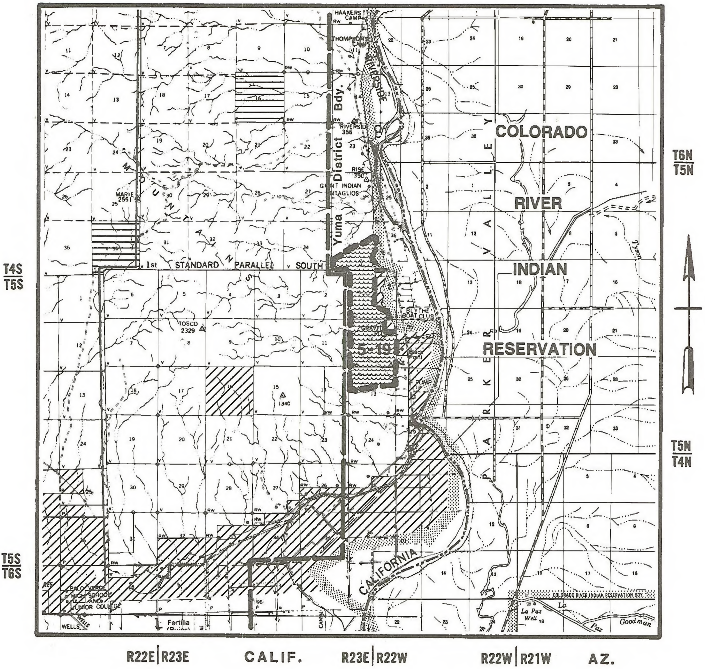
— helicopters
— motor vehicles to transport equipment and captured burros
— wranglers on horseback

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-21)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 4,500 acres as wilderness.

MAP 2-20



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▒
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▤

0 1 2 3 4
SCALE IN MILES

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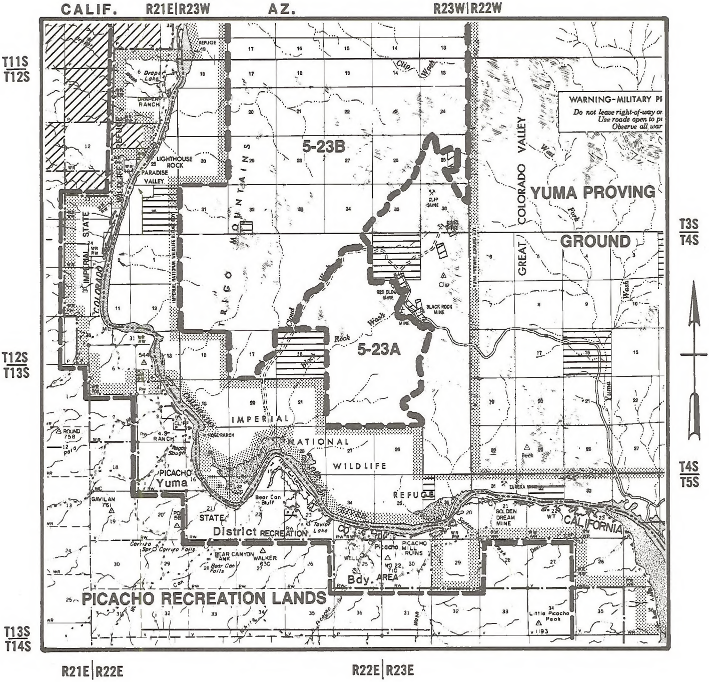
BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION 5-19

ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
NO WILDERNESS

MAP 2-21



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▒
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▒

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SOUTH TRIGO MOUNTAINS 5-23A

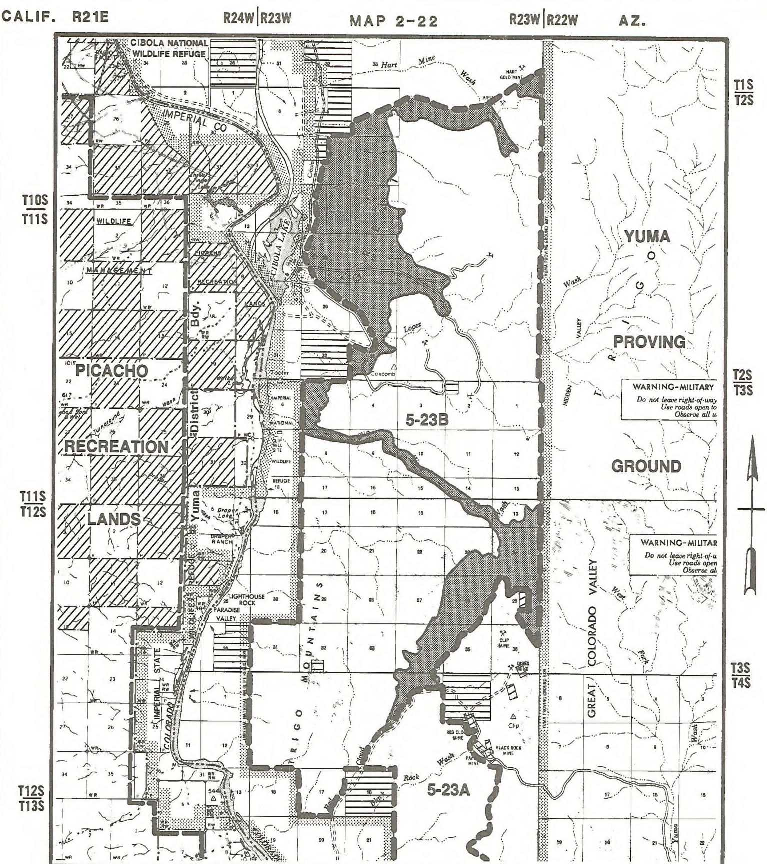
ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION

NO WILDERNESS

MAP 2-22



TRIGO MOUNTAINS 5-23B

ALTERNATIVES
PARTIAL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
PARTIAL WILDERNESS

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	large	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 4 S., R. 23 E., sec. 11, S½, and sec. 14, NE¼	500
Ug	small	1.5 miles of 12-foot-wide road	T. 4 S., R. 23 E., sec. 23	5
			Total	505

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 150 VDY from the present 350
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing. rockhounding, backpacking, camping, horseback riding

Close 1.5 miles of ways to vehicle use.

No recreational facilities would be developed.

BURRO MANAGEMENT

Herd size would be controlled by periodic roundups of excess animals using —

— helicopters
— motor vehicles along Red Cloud Mine Road and Red Cloud Wash outside designated area to transport equipment and captured burros
— wranglers on horseback
— roundups would be timed to minimize disturbance of wilderness values

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

TRIGO MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-23B) — 36,870 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-22)

The *Proposed Action* would designate 29,095 acres as wilderness and return the other 7,775 acres to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— allow for development of part of the Trigo Placer mineral deposits on the northern boundary
— allow for development of a highly mineralized area with proven production capability on the southeast boundary
— allow motor vehicle access along Clip Wash
— remove areas of lower wilderness quality which have been impacted by past vehicle and human activity near the western boundary
— preserve the higher quality wilderness lands and improve manageability

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the designated portion.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 550 VDY from the present 480
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, backpacking, horseback trail riding and some rockhounding and small game hunting

Eleven miles of vehicle ways closed to vehicle use.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Two wildlife developments planned —

— apron water catchments to benefit mule deer and desert bighorn sheep
— each would hold 17,000 gallons
— each would be enclosed by a 3-rail pipe fence to exclude burros
— each would be camouflaged to reduce visual impacts
— maintenance access by foot, horseback or helicopter
— construction equipment transported by helicopter
— would disturb about two acres each for a total of four acres

BURRO MANAGEMENT

To control burro numbers, there would be periodic burro roundups —

— using helicopters
— wranglers on horseback
— roundups would be timed to disturb wilderness values as little as possible

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the 7,775 acres returned to other resource uses.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 26	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 24	5
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 24, S½	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 34, E½	5
			Total	105

Three comprehensive exploration programs would occur in the southern half.

— T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 24, disturbing 2.0 acres
— T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 23, disturbing 2.0 acres
— T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sections 34 and 36, disturbing 1.5 acres

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 700 VDY from the present 320
— be mostly motorized (550 VDY; 78%), e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access, vehicle-based camping

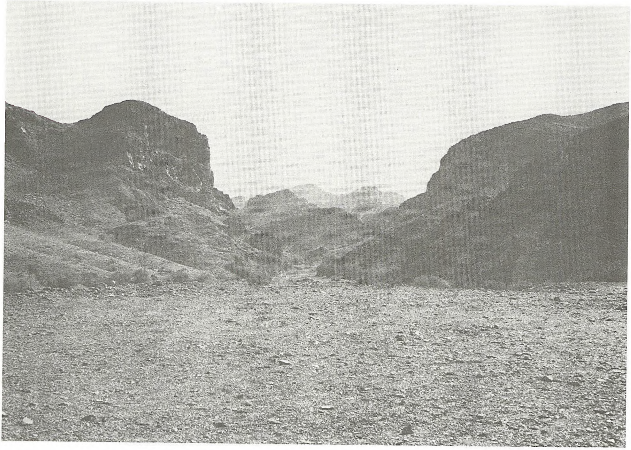
ORV use would be limited to 14 miles of vehicle ways.

Two horsecamps would be developed near the western boundary, and one on the southeastern corner near Clip Wash in a cherrystemmed area. Would consist of parking lot, water troughs, vault toilets, corrals, fire rings.

Each camp would disturb 5 acres for a total disturbance of 15 acres.

Motorized vehicle access and power tools would be used for maintenance of the camps.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.



All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-23)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 36,870 acres as wilderness.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 26	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 24	5
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 24, S½	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 34, E½	5
			Total	105

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 675 VDY from the present 800
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, backpacking, horseback trail riding and some rockhounding and small game hunting

Two horsecamps would be developed along western boundary outside the WSA, consisting of parking lot, corral, water troughs, vault toilets and fire rings.

Maintenance by power tools and access by motor vehicles.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Two wildlife developments planned —

— apron water catchments (T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 14, and T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 15) to benefit mule deer and desert bighorn sheep
— each would hold 17,000 gallons
— each would be enclosed by a 3-rail pipe fence to exclude burros
— each would be camouflaged to reduce visual impacts
— maintenance access by foot, horseback or helicopter
— construction equipment transported by helicopter
— would disturb about two acres each for a total disturbance of four acres

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

Enhanced Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-24)

The *Enhanced Wilderness* would designate 34,240 acres as wilderness and return 2,630 acres to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— allow for development of a highly mineralized area with proven production capability on the southeast boundary
— allow motor vehicle access along Clip Wash

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the designated portion.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 550 VDY from the present 480
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, backpacking, horseback trail riding and some rockhounding and small game hunting

Seventeen miles of vehicle ways closed to vehicle use.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Two wildlife developments planned —

— apron water catchments (T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 14, and T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 15) to benefit mule deer and desert bighorn sheep
— each would hold 17,000 gallons
— each would be enclosed by a 3-rail pipe fence to exclude burros
— each would be camouflaged to reduce visual impacts
— maintenance access by foot, horseback or helicopter
— construction equipment transported by helicopter
— would disturb about two acres each for a total disturbance of four acres

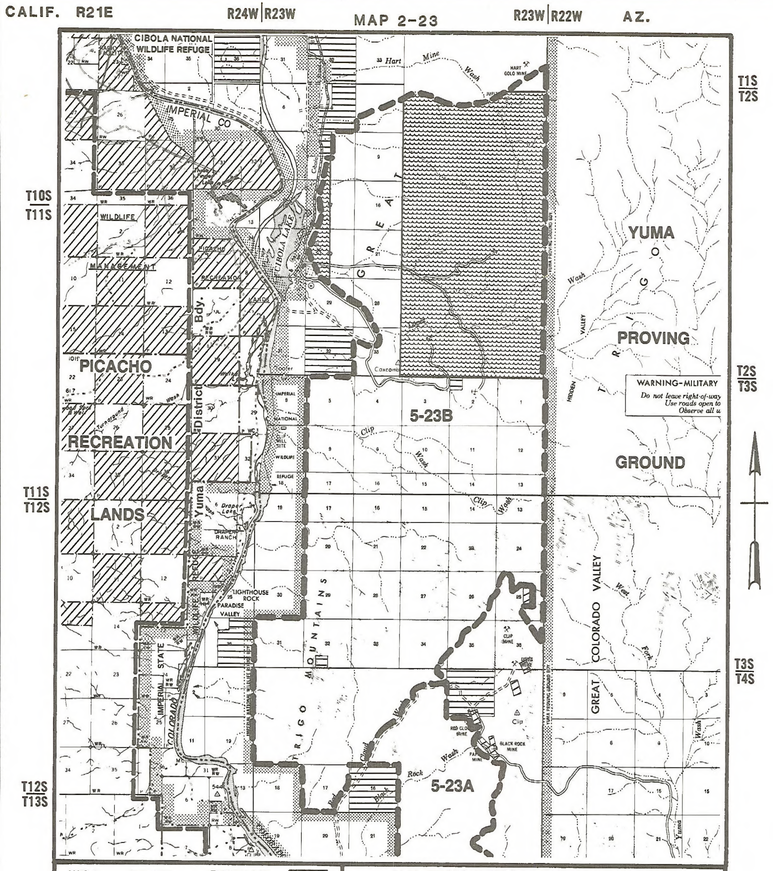
BURRO MANAGEMENT

To control burro numbers, there would be periodic burro roundups-

— using helicopters
— wranglers on horseback
— roundups would be timed to disturb wilderness values as little as possible

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the 2,630 acres returned to other resource uses.

MAP 2-23



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▨
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▒

0 1 2 3 4
SCALE IN MILES

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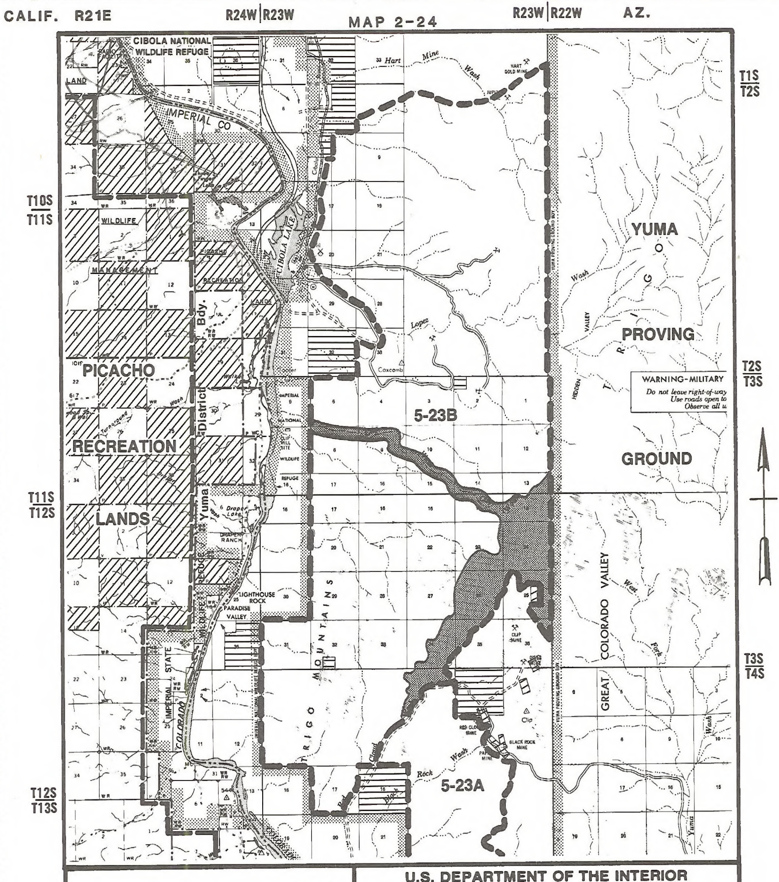
TRIGO MOUNTAINS 5-23B

ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS



NONSUITABLE	▨

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TRIGO MOUNTAINS 5-23B
ALTERNATIVES
ENHANCED WILDERNESS

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 26	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 24	5
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 24, S½	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 34, E½	5
			Total	105

Exploration programs would occur in the southern half, same as described for the *Partial Wilderness* alternative.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 650 VDY from the present 320

— be mostly motorized (500 VDY), e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access, vahicle-based camping

ORV use limited to eight miles of vehicle ways.

Two horsecamps would be developed outside and near the western boundary*, and one on the southeastern corner near Clip Wash in a cherrystemmed area. Would consist of parking lot, water troughs, vault toilets, corrals, fire rings. The cherrystemmed area camp would disturb five acres. Maintenance access would be by motorized vehicles and power tools would be used in maintenance activities.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-23)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return the entire 36,870 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 26	50
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 24	50
Ug	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 24, S½	50
Ug	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 3 S., R. 23 W., sec. 34, E½	50
Su	small (three)	3.0 miles of 12-foot-wide road	T. 2 S., R. 23 W., secs. 1, 11, 12	50x3 = 150
			Total	305

*Tentative upon U.S. Bureau of Reclamation revocation on opening of lands to mineral entry.

General exploration program would be in north-central portion for zonation between gold and manganese at T. 2 S., R. 23 W., sections 23, 27 and 34, disturbing three acres.

Comprehensive exploration program, T. 2 S., R. 23 W., sections 11 and 14, disturbing two acres.

Exploration programs would occur in the south half, same as described for *Partial Wilderness*.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 1,300 VDY from the present 800

— be partly motorized (45%), e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access, vehicle-based camping

— be mostly (55%) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, backpacking, horseback trail riding and some rockhounding and small game hunting

ORV use limited to existing 25 miles of vehicle ways.

Two horsecamps would be developed within the WSA near the western boundary, and one on the southeastern corner near Clip Wash in a cherrystemmed area. Would consist of parking lot, water troughs, vault toilets, corrals, fire rings. Each camp would disturb 5 acres for a total disturbance of 15 acres. Motorized vehicle access and power tools would be used for maintenance of the three camps.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Two wildlife developments planned —

— apron water catchments to benefit mule deer and desert bighorn sheep, disturbing two acres each for a total disturbance of four acres
— each would hold 17,000 gallons
— each would be enclosed by a 3-rail pipe fence to exclude burros
— each would be camouflaged to reduce visual impacts
— maintenance access by foot, horseback or helicopter
— vehicles on existing ways used to carry in construction equipment and for maintenance

BURRO MANAGEMENT

Periodic burro roundups to capture excess animals —

— would use helicopters
— motor vehicles for equiment transport and burro transport
— wranglers on horseback

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

KOFA UNIT 3 SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-31) — (3,400 Acres)

Proposed Action/No Wilderness

(Map 2-25)

The *Proposed Action* would return the entire 3,400 acres to other resources uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 575 VDY from the present 300
— be mostly 545 VDY — 95% motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access, vehicle-based camping
— be partly (5%) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding, backpacking, camping

ORV use limited to the existing three miles of ways.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

One existing water catchment often needs water addition — truck access on an existing road.

About 1,700 acres of this unit would continue to be managed as priority wildlife habitat.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-25)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 3,400 acres as wilderness

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

RECREATION USES

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 50 VDY from the present 300
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding, backpacking, camping

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

The one existing water development often needs water additions — which would be flown in with difficulty by helicopter.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

KOFA UNIT 4 NORTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-33) — (1,900 Acres)

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-26)

The *Proposed Action* would designate 1,380 acres as wilderness and return the other 520 acres to other resource uses

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— exclude an inferred zeolite mineral deposit on north and west boundaries
— follow distinct geographical features readily identifiable to visitors

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the designated portion.

RECREATION USE

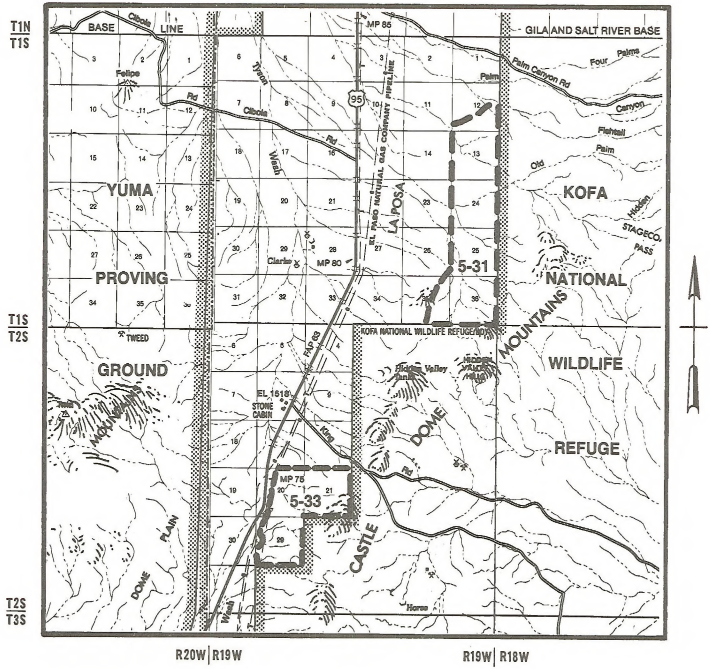
Visitor use would —

— decrease to 50 VDY from the present 100
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding, hunting

0.4 mile of vehicle way would be closed to ORV use.

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the acres returned to other resource uses.

MAP 2-25



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ☰
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▩
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▤

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SCALE IN MILES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District

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KOFA UNIT 3
SOUTHERN ADDITION 5-31

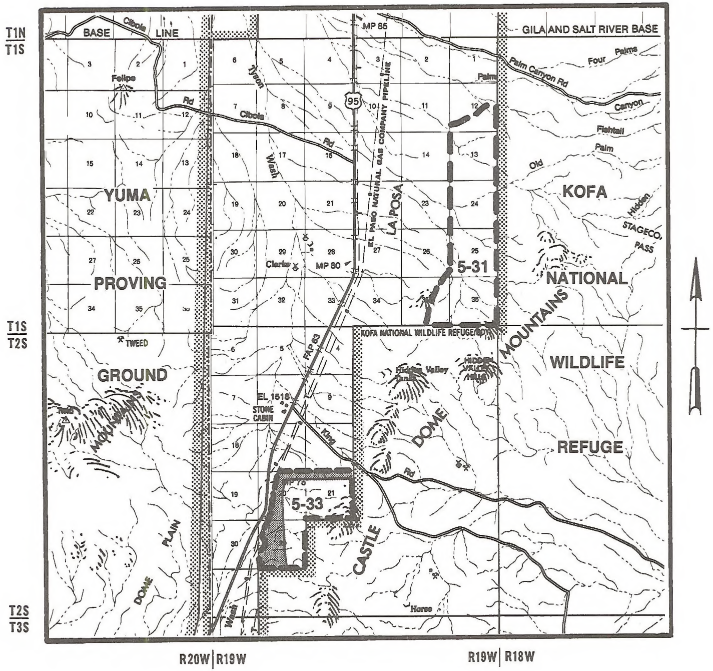
ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION

NO WILDERNESS

MAP 2-26



NONSUITABLE ▨	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District BASEMAP© ADOT

KOFA UNIT 4

NORTHERN ADDITION 5-33

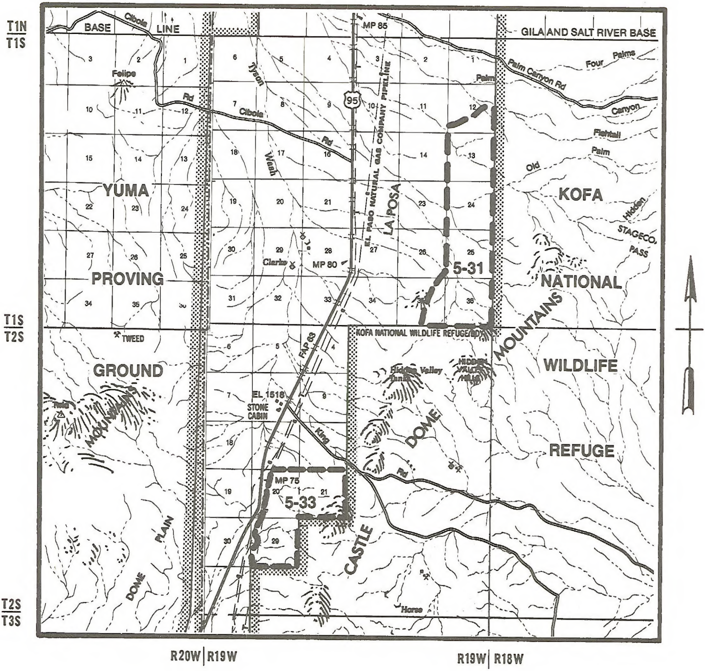
ALTERNATIVES

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

MAP 2-27



WSA	▬ ▬	PRIVATE	▨
PUBLIC	☐	OTHER	▒
STATE	☰		
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL	≋		

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SCALE IN MILES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
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KOFA UNIT 4
NORTHERN ADDITION 5-33
ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot wide road upgraded	T. 2 S., R. 19 W., sec. 29, W½	59

One comprehensive exploration program for zeolite in southern part to confirm extent and reserves, disturbing 2.0 acres.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 50 VDY from the present 40
— be mostly motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access

LAND USE

A two-mile portion of a powerline would be built in the 0.5-mile-wide portion of the corridor inside the area.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-27)

The All Wilderness alternative would designate the entire 1,900 acres as wilderness.

The following actions and uses are anticipated

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot wide road upgraded	T. 2 S., R. 19 W., sec. 29, W½	50

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 50 VDY from the present 150
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding
— a 0.5-mile vehicle way would be closed to ORV use

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-27)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return the entire 1,900 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	1.0 mile of 12-foot wide road upgraded	T. 2 S., R. 19 W., sec. 29, W½	50

Exploration activity would be the same as described for the *Partial Wilderness* alternative.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 300 VDY from the present 150
— be mostly (285-95%) motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access
— be partly nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding

LAND USE

A two-mile portion of a powerline would be built in the 0.5-mile-wide portion of the corridor inside the WSA.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

KOFA UNIT 4 SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-34) — (11,220 Acres)

Proposed Action/No Wilderness

(Map 2-28)

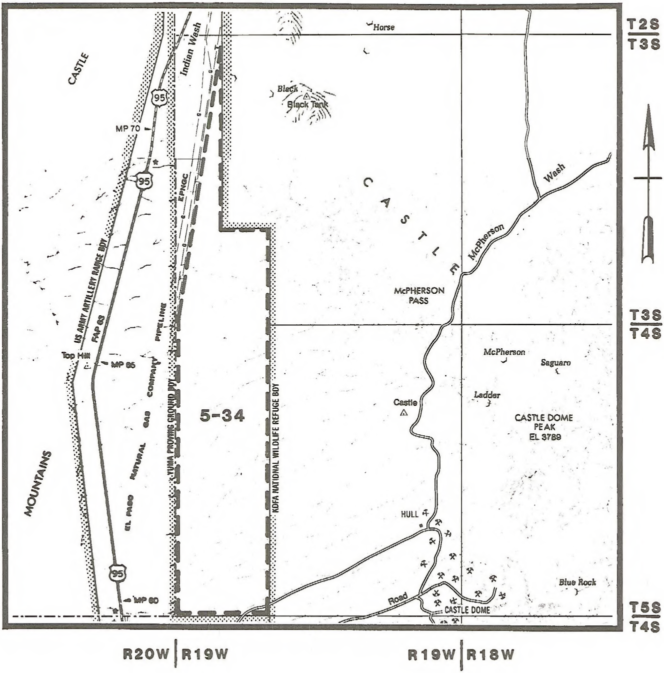
The *Proposed Action* for the Kofa Unit 4, Southern Addition WSA would return the entire 11,220 acres to other resource uses. The following actions and uses are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 300 VDY from the present 150
— be mostly (95%) motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, hunter and trapper access, vehicle-based camping

MAP 2-28



WSA ▬ ▬
PUBLIC ☐
STATE ▤
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ▨
PRIVATE ▨
OTHER ▩

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SCALE IN MILES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
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KOFA UNIT 4
SOUTHERN ADDITION 5-34

ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
NO WILDERNESS

— be partly (5%) nonmotorized, e.g., day rockhounding, small game hunting, camping

ORV use would be limited to the existing seven miles of ways.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Planned wildlife water catchment would —

— benefit mule deer and desert bighorn sheep
— be fiberglass and asphalt water catchment with a 17,000 gallon tank at T. 4 S., R. 19 W., sec. 5, disturbing two acres
— be enclosed by a three-rail fence to exclude burros
— be camouflaged to reduce visual impacts
— be built of materials brought in by trucks on existing ways
— be maintained by vehicles on existing ways

About 600 acres of this WSA would continue to be managed as priority wildlife habitat.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-28)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 11,220 acres as wilderness. The following actions and uses are anticipated.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 50 VDY from the present 150
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., rockhounding and small game hunting

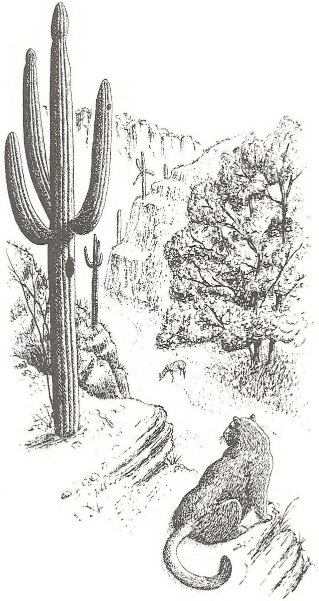
About seven miles of ways would be closed to vehicle access.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Planned wildlife water catchment would —

— benefit mule deer and desert bighorn sheep
— be fiberglass and asphalt water catchment with a 17,000 gallon tank at T. 4 S., R. 19 W., sec. 5
— be enclosed by a three-rail fence to exclude burros
— be camouflaged to reduce visual impacts
— impact about two acres
— be built of materials brought in by helicopter
— be maintained with difficulty by foot, horseback or helicopter access

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

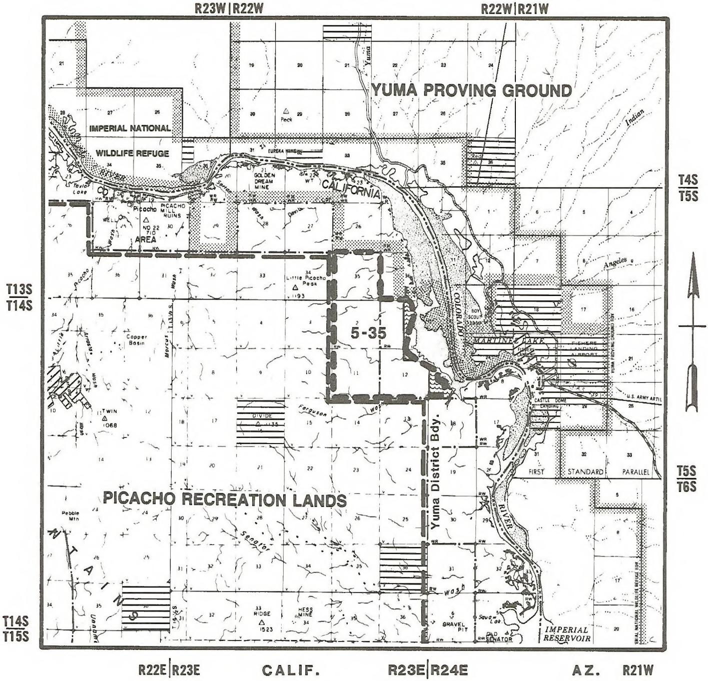


LITTLE PICHACHO PEAK ADDITION (AZ-050-35) — (2,915 Acres)

Proposed Action/No Wilderness (Map 2-29)

The *Proposed Action* would return all 2,915 acres to other resource uses.

MAP 2-29



WSA ▬ ▬
PRIVATE ▨
PUBLIC ☐
OTHER ▩
STATE ☰
RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL ≋

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SCALE IN MILES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
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LITTLE PICACHO PEAK
ADDITION 5-35

ALTERNATIVES
NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS
PROPOSED ACTION
NO WILDERNESS

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small (2 mines)	3.5 miles of 12-foot-wide road	T. 14 S., R. 23 E., sec. 2, W½ and sec. 11, W½	50 x 2 = 100

Two exploration programs would be conducted —

— small program, sections 2 and 11, disturbing 0.75 acre
— large program, sections 2 and 11, disturbing 1.50 acres

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 500 VDY from the present 200
— be mostly (380 VDY; 76%) nonmotorized, e.g., hiking, camping, rockhounding

ORV use (120 VDY; 24%) limited to shallow washes along the eastern boundary.

No recreational facilities would be developed.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Two runoff structures planned to-

— trap runoff sediments and allow them to accumulate and form thick, moisture-holding layer of topsoil
— provide a wetter environment to promote high-quality wildlife forage and cover plants
— be as inconspicuous as possible through careful design
— be accessible from existing roads and dry washes
— will disturb about .5 acre each during construction

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-29)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would be designate all 2,915 acres as wilderness.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	small	0.5 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 14 S., R. 23 E., sec. 11, W½	50

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 500 VDY from the present 200
— be mostly (95%) nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, sightseeing, rockhounding, camping
— be partly (5%) motorized, e.g., recreational 4-wheeling, camping (most of area is inaccessible to ORVs)

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

MUGGINS MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-53A) — 14,455 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-30)

The *Proposed Action* would designate 8,855 acres as wilderness and return 5,600 acres to other resource uses.

The proposed boundaries were established to —

— allow development of uranium deposits on eastern boundary
— allow continued vehicle access to the popular Muggins Wash for recreation and mining by cherry-stemming the vehicle way
— improve the northwestern boundary so it follows a natural geographic feature
— exclude proposed apron water catchment

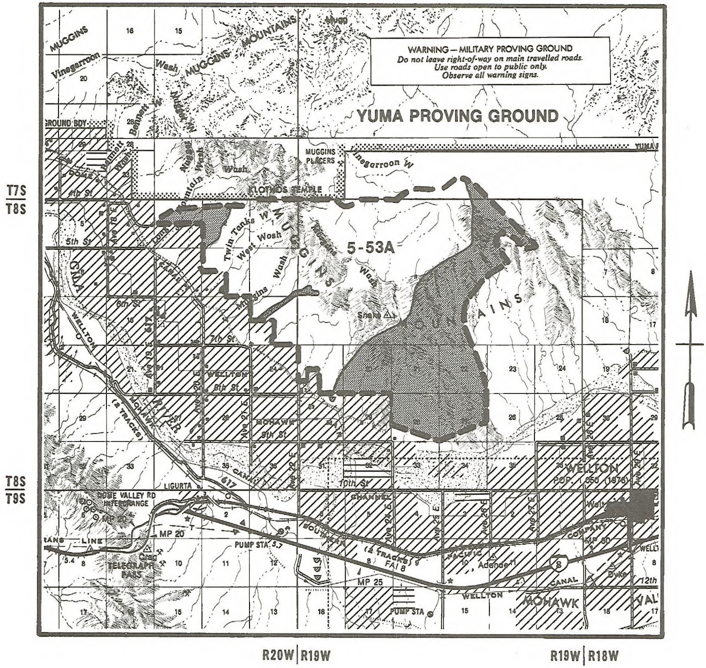
Under this alternative the following are anticipated for the designated portion.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 250 VDY from the present 170
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., small game and deer hunting, rock climbing, day hiking, backpacking

MAP 2-30



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MUGGINS MOUNTAINS 5-53A

ALTERNATIVES

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

PROPOSED ACTION

PARTIAL WILDERNESS

A trail head (gravel parking area, small bulletin board/ kiosk and maintenance-free vault toilets) would be developed on boundary in T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 30, outside the WSA to facilitate access to designated area.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Development planned —

— improve a natural tinaja (T. 8 S., R. 20 W., sec. 13) which would involve
  — rock-filled wire baskets above tinaja to trap silt and prevent the tinaja from filling in
  — sealing cracks where necessary
  — installing a small rock and cement dam to increase storage capacity
  — installing a shade structure to reduce evaporation
  — building a 3-rail fence to exclude burros
  — camouflaging to reduce visual impacts
  — impact from construction of less than one acre

Maintenance access by foot, horseback or helicopter.

The following uses and actions are anticipated in the 5,600 acres returned to other resource uses.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 21, W½	300
Su	small	2.0 miles of 12-foot-wide road	T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 10, W½	50
			Total	350

Two comprehensive exploration programs to determine the extent of uranium, disturbing three acres.

Uranium resources would be filed on before designation of the recommended portion.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— increase to 50 VDY from the present 430
— be mostly (700 VDY; 93%) motorized, e.g., hiking, camping, hunting

ORV use limited to 7.5 miles of vehicle ways and trails.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Planned development —

— apron water catchment in T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 21
  — 17,000-gallon tank
  — enclosed by 3-rail pipe fence to exclude burros
  — camouflaged to reduce visual impact
  — vehicle ways used for trucks hauling construction supplies
  — maintenance access by vehicle ways
  — would disturb about two acres

LAND USE

A 3.5-mile powerline would be built in the 0.5-mile-wide portions of corridor in the WSA.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-31)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate the entire 14,455 acres as wilderness.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 21, W½	300
Su	small	2.0 miles of 12-foot-wide road	T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 10, W½	50
			Total	350

Uranium resources would be filed on before designation of the recommended portion

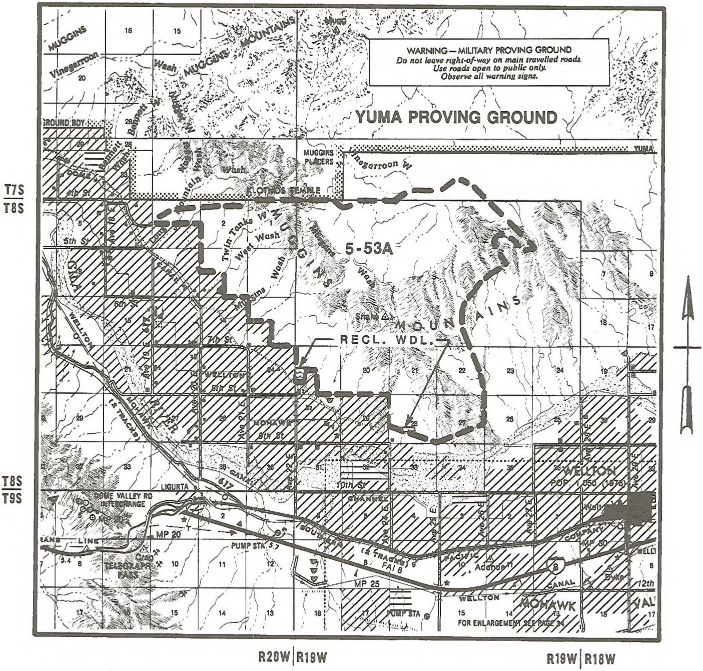
RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

— decrease to 175 VDY from the present 600
— be all nonmotorized, e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, backpacking, camping, rock climbing, hunting
— close eight miles of vehicle ways to ORV use

A trail head (gravel parking area, small bulletin board/ kiosk and maintenance-free vault toilets) would be developed on boundary in T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 30, outside the WSA facilitating access to the designated area.

MAP 2-31



WSA	▬ ▬	PRIVATE	▨
PUBLIC	☐	OTHER	░
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RECLAMATION WITHDRAWAL	≋		

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SCALE IN MILES

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MUGGINS MOUNTAINS 5-53A

ALTERNATIVES

NO WILDERNESS / ALL WILDERNESS

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Development planned —

- improve a natural tinaja (T. 8 S., R. 20 W., sec. 13) which would involve
  - rock-filled wire baskets above tinaja to trap silt and prevent the tinaja from filling in
  - sealing cracks where necessary
  - installing a small rock and cement dam to increase storage capacity
  - installing a shade structure to reduce evaporation
  - building a 3-rail fence to exclude burros
  - camouflaging to reduce visual impacts
  - impact from construction of less than one acre
- apron water catchment in T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 21
  - 17,000-gallon tank
  - enclosed by 3-rail pipe fence to exclude burros
  - disturbance of two acres
  - camouflaged to reduce visual impact
  - foot, horseback or helicopters used for hauling construction supplies

Maintenance access by foot, horseback or helicopter for both the catchment and the tinaja.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-31)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return the entire 14,455 acres to other resource uses.

The following actions and uses are anticipated.

MINERALS AND ENERGY RESOURCES

Type	Size	Access Required	Location	Acres Disturbed
Su	moderate	1.0 mile of 12-foot-wide road	T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 21, W½	300
Su	small	2.0 miles of 12-foot-wide road	T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 10, W½	50
			Total	350

Two comprehensive exploration programs to determine the extent of uranium, disturbing three acres.

Uranium resources would be filed on before designation of the recommended portion.

RECREATION USE

Visitor use would —

- increase to 1,000 VDY from the present 600
- be mostly (700 VDY — 70%) motorized, e.g., hiking, camping, hunting
- be partly nonmotorized (300 VDY — 30%), e.g., day hiking, rockhounding, backpacking, camping, rock climbing, hunting

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Development planned —

- improve a natural tinaja (T. 8 S., R. 20 W., sec. 13) which would involve
  - rock-filled wire baskets above tinaja to trap silt and prevent the tinaja from filling in
  - sealing cracks where necessary
  - installing a small rock and cement dam to increase storage capacity
  - installing a shade structure to reduce evaporation
  - building a 3-rail fence to exclude burros
  - camouflaging to reduce visual impacts
  - impact from construction of less than one acre
  - maintenance access by vehicle ways
- apron water catchment in T. 8 S., R. 19 W., sec. 21
  - 17,000-gallon tank
  - enclosed by 3-rail pipe fence to exclude burros
  - camouflaged to reduce visual impact
  - construction impact of about two acres
  - vehicle ways used for trucks hauling construction supplies
  - maintenance access by vehicle ways

LAND USE

A powerline (nine miles) would be built in the 0.5-mile-wide portion of the corridor that is inside the WSA boundary.

No other resource management actions planned under this alternative.

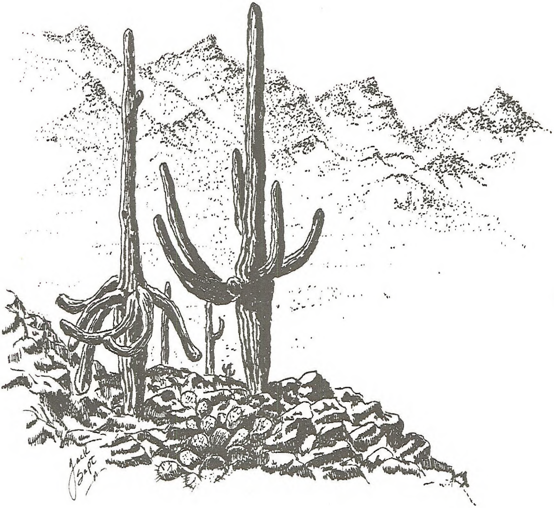


TABLE 2-4

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

DEAD MOUNTAINS NORTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-01) — 1,815 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use and powerline construction and maintenance would cause loss or impairment of the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation opportunities over 100% of the unit.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation on all 1,815 acres of the WSA by precluding motorized recreation use and the construction and maintenance of a powerline.
Recreation Use	Opportunities for recreation use would not change.	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 1,815 acres.
Land Use	None	Closure of the portion of the designated utility corridor that overlaps the east boundary of the WSA could delay or halt construction of a proposed electrical powerline.

DEAD MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-02) — 630 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use and powerline construction and maintenance would cause loss or impairment of the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation opportunities over 100% of the unit.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation on all 630 acres by precluding motorized recreation use and new powerline construction.
Recreation Use	Opportunities for recreation use would not change.	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 630 acres.
Land Use	None	Closure of the portion of the designated utility corridor that overlaps the east boundary of the WSA under this alternative could delay or halt construction of a proposed electrical powerline.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

CHEMEHUEVI MOUNTAINS ADDITION WSA (AZ-050-03) — 195 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, wilderness values of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be impaired on all 195 acres of the WSA by the construction of a natural gas pipeline and the expansion of an existing quarry.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation over 100% (195 acres) of the unit by precluding construction and maintenance of a pipeline and expansion of a riprap quarry.
Recreation Use	Opportunities for recreation use in the area would not change.	This alternative would not affect opportunities for recreation use in the 195-acre area.

CHEMEHUEVI/NEEDLES ADDITION (AZ-050-04) — 960 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation on all 960 acres of the WSA.	This alternative would protect the wilderness qualities of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation over 100% of the unit because of existing ORV closure.
Recreation Use	None	Opportunities for recreation use would not change.

NEEDLES EASTERN ADDITION (AZ-050-05B) — 465 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use would cause loss or impairment of the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation opportunities over 25% of the unit.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation on all 465 acres of the WSA by precluding motorized recreation use.
Recreation Use	Opportunities for recreation use would not change.	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 465 acres.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

CROSSMAN PEAK (AZ-050-07B) — 38,630 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	Nondesignated Area
Wilderness Values	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on 91% of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.	Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, motorized vehicle use and water catchment construction would impair wilderness values on 9% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of gold and tungsten resources at two potential mines within the designated area.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 19,340 acres of public land open to mineral development.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 13,735 acres by displacing 25 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.	This alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 13,700 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mineral developments.	No impacts to the 8,550 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat outside of the wilderness proposal are anticipated.

CROSSMAN PEAK (AZ-050-07B) — 38,630 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 95% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, powerline maintenance, and some mining.	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, road construction and water catchments would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 50% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of gold and tungsten resources at two potential mines within the WSA.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 36,630 acres by closing 13 miles of vehicle ways to motorized recreation use.	Opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 22,190 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mineral developments.	This alternative would not protect any of the 22,250 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

MOHAVE WASH WSA (AZ-050-076/050-48/020-52) — 103,365 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	Undesignated Area
Wilderness Values	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on 96% of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from motorized vehicle use.	Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, two mines, a transmission line and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on 3,200 acres.
Mineral Development	This alternative would curtail some mineral exploration activities in the designated area. No mining development would be prevented, however, as none is projected in the area.	This alternative would not prevent the development of mineral exploration programs or mines within the 48,347 acres of public land open to mineral development.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 55,018 acres by closing 10 miles of vehicle ways to motorized recreation use.	This alternative would not change opportunities for recreation uses on 48,347 acres of WSA.
Wildlife Values	None	This alternative would not protect 14,466 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments.

MOHAVE WASH WSA (AZ-050-076/050-48/020-52) — 103,365 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 99.4% of the WSA by precluding some potential mining and motorized vehicle use.	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, powerlines and water catchments would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 20% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would curtail some mineral exploration activities and prevent the development of one potential mine in the WSA.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 103,365 acres by closing 50 miles of vehicle ways to nonmotorized recreation use.	Under this alternative, opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged.
Wildlife Values	Under this alternative, 39,912 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be further protected by preventing surface disturbances from mining developments.	Crucial bighorn sheep habitat would not be protected from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments on 39,962 acres.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

WHIPPLE MOUNTAINS ADDITION (AZ-050-10) — 1,380 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	**Nondesignated Area**
Wilderness Values	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on 630 acres (46%) of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.	Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values over the entire 120 acres of the undesignated portion of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of precious metal resources at one potential mine within the designated area.	None
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 1,260 acres by displacing 60 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.	This alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 120 acres of the WSA.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 1,260 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mineral developments.	Minor impairment to the 120 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat outside of the wilderness proposal is anticipated.

WHIPPLE MOUNTAINS ADDITION (AZ-050-10) — 1,380 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	One mine and other surface disturbances would be denied, preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation on 840 acres.	Motorized vehicle use and mining would cause a loss or impairment of the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 100% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent exploration and the development of one moderate mine.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would displace 60 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands. This would enhance nonmotorized recreation opportunities in the area.	This alternative would not impact opportunities for recreation use in the area.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 1,330 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mining.	This alternative would allow mining and motorized recreation uses to disturb bighorn sheep.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN (AZ-050-12) — 25,260 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	Nondesignated Area
Wilderness Values	This alternative would close six miles of vehicle ways, thereby preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation within the area proposed for wilderness designation.	Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, four mines, 4.5 miles of powerline and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on 6% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of gold resources at two potential mines within the designated area.	This alternative would leave 9,585 acres of public land open to mineral development and allow three mines to be developed.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 15,675 acres by displacing 450 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.	This alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 9,585 acres of WSA.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 14,800 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mineral developments and motorized vehicle use.	Disturbances to bighorn sheep habitat would occur on the 9,585 acres not designated as wilderness due to mining uses.

GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN (AZ-050-12) — 25,260 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 99% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, powerline construction and most mineral development.	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, road construction and an electrical powerline would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 10% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of potential copper, gold and silver resources of three mines within the WSA, but allow one exploration program to continue.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 25,260 acres within the WSA.	Opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 23,240 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by closing 17 miles of vehicle ways, which would revegetate over time.	This alternative would not protect 23,310 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

PLANET PEAK (AZ-050-13) — 17,645 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	Nondesignated Area
Wilderness Values	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on 93% of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments, powerline maintenance and construction and motorized vehicle use.	Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, mining and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of gold and silver resources at one potential mine in the designated area.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 1,215 acres of public land open to mineral development.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 16,430 acres by displacing 80 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.	This alternative would not change opportunities for recreation uses on 1,215 acres of the WSA.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 6,360 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat and close 30 miles of vehicle ways which would revegetate over time, thus improving the wildlife habitat.	This alternative would allow mining and motorized recreation uses to disturb bighorn sheep habitat in the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness.

PLANET PEAK (AZ-050-13) — 17,645 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, mineral development and an electrical transmission line.	Motorized vehicle use, mining, mine roads and a powerline would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 9% of the WSA. The remaining 91% of the WSA would not be greatly affected by motorized vehicle recreation.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of gold and silver resources at two potential mines in the WSA.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines in the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 17,645 acres by displacing 80 VDY of motorized recreation use.	This alternative would allow not affect opportunities for recreation use in the WSA.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would provide further protection for 6,415 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by closing 30 miles of vehicle ways within the area.	This alternative would allow 13 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat to be degraded.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

CACTUS PLAIN (AZ-050-14A/B) — 70,360 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	**Nondesignated Area**
Wilderness Values	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on 100% of the designated portion of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.	Adverse impacts to wilderness would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, two mines, motorized vehicle use, powerline construction and urban growth would impair wilderness values on 90% of the undesignated portion of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of three potential mines within the designated area.	This alternative would leave 8,035 acres of public land open to mineral development.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 62,325 acres by displacing 810 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.	This alternative would not change opportunities for recreation uses on 8,035 acres.

CACTUS PLAIN (AZ-050-14A/B) — 70,360 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ENHANCED WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 90% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, mineral development, powerline construction and road construction.	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on 100% of the designated portion of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of three mines in the designated area.	This alternative would prevent the development of three potential mines within the designated area.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 70,360 acres by closing 12.2 miles of vehicle way to motorized use.	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 65,330 acres by displacing 750 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

CACTUS PLAIN (AZ-050-14A/B) 70,360 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENHANCED WILDERNESS	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
	Nondesignated Area	
Wilderness Values	Adverse impacts to wilderness would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, two mines, motorized vehicle use and urban growth would impair wilderness values on 10% of the portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses.	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, powerline construction, urban development and mining would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 25% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would leave 5,030 acres of public land open to mineral development.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would not change opportunities for recreation uses on 5,030 acres.	Opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged.

SWANSEA (AZ-050-15A) — 41,690 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	**Undesignated Area**
Wilderness Values	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on of the recommended area by preventing adverse impacts to solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation from motorized vehicle use.	Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, the development of six mines, continuing motorized vehicle use, pipeline construction and road development would impair wilderness values on 41% of the undesignated area.
Mineral Development	None	This alternative would not prevent the development of potential mines on 29,895 acres of public land open to mineral development.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by displacing 400 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.	This alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 29,895 acres of the WSA.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 530 acres of riparian habitat.	None

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

SWANSEA (AZ-050-15A) — 41,690 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 76% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, pipeline development and an ORV race course realignment.	This alternative would not prevent adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 30% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent some exploration programs and mineral development while allowing development to continue on an anticipated six mines possessing valid existing rights.	None
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation activities on 41,690 acres.	None
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 530 acres of riparian habitat.	None

EAST CACTUS PLAIN (AZ-050-17) — 13,735 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/ALL WILDERNESS	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation over the entire 13,735 acres of the WSA by precluding development of a small mine, two mineral exploration activities and a new electrical powerline.	Mining activities and a new powerline would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 30% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of one small mine within the WSA.	This alternative would not prevent development of any potential mines within the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 13,735 acres.	Opportunities for recreation would not change.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS NORTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-18) — 415 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, a loss or impairment of wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation because of motorized recreation use would result on 30% of the WSA.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 100% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation.
Recreation Use	Opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged.	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing 0.2 miles of vehicle way.

BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-19) -1,420 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 35% of the WSA.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 100% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation.
Recreation Use	None	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing 2.5 miles of vehicle ways.

SOUTH TRIGO MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-23A) — 4,500 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, mining and motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation on 78% of the WSA.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 34% of the WSA by precluding most potential mining and other developments. Mining on existing claims would impair 66% of the WSA because of valid existing rights, regardless of wilderness designation.
Mineral Development	This alternative would not prevent the development of potential mines within the area.	This alternative would allow two mines to be developed but deny two exploration programs and one small mine.
Recreation Use	Opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged.	This alternative would eliminate motorized recreation use within the WSA by closing 1.5 miles of vehicle ways. Opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use would be enhanced as a result.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would allow mining and increased motorized recreation use which would disturb 520 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat.	This alternative would provided added protection for approximately 4,000 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by denying mineral exploration programs and development of one mine.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

TRIGO MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-23B) — 36,870 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	Nondesignated Area
Wilderness Values	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on 100% of the designated portion of the WSA, preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.	On the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness, four mines, exploration programs and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on 15% of the nondesignated area.
Mineral Development	This alternative would prevent the development of three placer mines within the designated area, which would impair regional gold production.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 7,775 acres of public land open to mineral development.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by displacing 320 VDY of motorized recreation use to the undesignated portion of the WSA.	This alternative would not change the types of recreation opportunities on 7,755 acres.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 29,095 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat and close 11 miles of vehicle ways (which would revegetate over time) thus improving the wildlife habitat.	This alternative would allow mining and motorized recreation uses to disturb 105 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat.
Burro Management	Restrictions in the use of equipment could cause increased capture costs and less capture efficiency, resulting in a higher burro population.	None

TRIGO MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-23B) — 36,870 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ENHANCED WILDERNESS
		Nondesignated Area
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 93% of the WSA by precluding most potential mining and other development. Mining on existing claims would impair 7% of the WSA because of valid existing rights, regardless of wilderness designation.	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on 100% of the designated portion of the WSA, preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.
Mineral Development	This alternative would deny three exploration programs and three mines in the northeastern portion of the WSA.	This alternative would prevent the development of three placer mines within the designated area, which would impair regional gold production.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

Recreation Use	Under this alternative, motorized recreation use that is presently in the area would be eliminated by the closure of 25 miles of vehicle ways. Opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use of the area would generally be enhanced by these closures.	This alternative would move 240 VDY of motorized use to the undesignated portion of the WSA. Opportunities for nonmotorized use — horseback trail riding, day hiking, backpacking and limited rockhounding — would be enhanced as a result.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would allow mining to disturb 105 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat.	This alternative would protect 34,240 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat.
Burro Management	None	Restrictions in the use of equipment could cause increased capture costs and less capture efficiency resulting in a higher burro population.

TRIGO MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-23B) — 36,870 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ENHANCED WILDERNESS	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
	Nondesignated Area	
Wilderness Values	On the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness, four mines and exploration programs and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on 46% of the area.	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities would occur on 20% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 2,630 acres of public land open to mineral development.	This alternative would allow all potential exploration and mineral development to proceed.
Recreation Use	This alternative would not change the types of recreation opportunities on 2,630 acres.	This alternative would not affect the types of recreation opportunities available in the unit.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would allow mining and motorized recreation uses to disturb crucial bighorn sheep habitat.	This alternative would allow 316 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat to be degraded.
Burro Management	None	None

KOFA UNIT 3 SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-31) — 3,400 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impact to wilderness values. As a result, anticipated water catchment maintenance and motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation across 45% of the WSA.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation by precluding motorized vehicle use.
Recreation Use	Opportunities for recreation use would not change.	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing two miles of vehicle ways and eliminating motorized use from the area.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

KOFA UNIT 4 NORTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-33) — 1,900 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	Nondesignated Area
Wilderness Values	This alternative would maintain wilderness values on 73% of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation from motorized vehicle use.	Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, mining, an electrical transmission line and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on the designated area.
Mineral Development	This alternative would not prevent any potential mineral resource development as no mines or exploration programs are projected within the designated area.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 520 acres of public land open to mineral development.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance the opportunities for nonmotorized use on 1,380 acres by displacing motorized use in the area.	This alternative would not significantly change the opportunities for recreation use on 520 acres of the WSA.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would allow for a slight enhancement of the wildlife habitat in the designated area.	This alternative would allow mining and road upgrading to disturb 10% of the crucial bighorn sheep habitat in the nondesignated area.

KOFA UNIT 4 NORTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-33) — 1,900 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation across the WSA by precluding most motorized recreation use.	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, road construction and water catchments would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 86% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	1,900 acres would be withdrawn from mineral entry. However, subject to valid existing rights, a surface zeolite mine would be developed.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized use on 1,850 acres by displacing motorized recreation use.	The opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect crucial bighorn sheep habitat, except for disturbances from a mine on claims with valid existing rights.	This alternative would not protect bighorn sheep habitat from disturbances caused by mineral developments.

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

KOFA UNIT 4 SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-34) — 11,220 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, water catchment construction and motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 20% of the WSA.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 99% of the WSA by precluding motorized recreation use. A wildlife water catchment would impair 1% of the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use in the area.	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 11,220 acres by displacing 140 VDY of motorized use to nearby public lands.

LITTLE PICACHO PEAK ADDITION (AZ-050-35) — 2,915 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, mining, road construction, wildlife developments and motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities in 100% of the WSA.	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and recreation across the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle use. Minining on existing claims would impair 9% of the WSA because of valid existing rights.
Mineral Development	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.	This alternative would prevent the development of one potential mine within the WSA.
Recreation Use	Opportunities for recreation use would not change.	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 2,915 acres.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would not protect 2,915 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments.	None

TABLE 2-4 (Continued)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

MUGGINS MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-53A) — 14,455 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS	PROPOSED ACTION/PARTIAL WILDERNESS
	Designated Area	**Nondesignated Area**
Wilderness Values	This alternative would prevent adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation on the designated area by prohibiting motorized recreation on the lands designated wilderness and prohibiting powerline construction.	On the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness, two mines, motorized vehicle use, powerline construction and a water catchment would impair wilderness values on 80% of the area.
Mineral Development	This alternative would deny mineral exploration on 8,855 acres in the designated area.	This alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within 5,600 acres of public land open to mineral development.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 8,855 acres by displacing 400 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.	This alternative would not impact opportunities for recreation uses on 5,600 acres of the WSA.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 8,855 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by closing 0.5 miles of vehicle ways and preventing impacts associated with mineral development and exploration.	Crucial bighorn sheep habitat in this area would be adversely impacted.

MUGGINS MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-53A) — 14,455 Acres

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ALL WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE	NO WILDERNESS ALTERNATIVE
Wilderness Values	Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle use. Mining on existing claims would impair 9% of the WSA because of valid existing rights.	This alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, road construction and water catchments would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 31% of the WSA.
Mineral Development	This alternative would deny mineral development in the designated area except for two mines on claims with proven discoveries.	This alternative would not prevent mineral development in the WSA.
Recreation Use	This alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 14,455 acres by closing eight miles of vehicle ways and displacing 430 VDY of motorized recreation use.	Opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation uses in the WSA would remain unchanged.
Wildlife Values	This alternative would protect 14,455 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by closing eight miles of vehicle ways and preventing impacts associated with mineral exploration and development.	This alternative would not protect 8,855 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments and vehicle ways.

Chapter 3

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

CHAPTER 3

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 3 briefly describes resources that would be impacted by the alternatives including the *Proposed Action*. Descriptions are only as detailed as needed for the reader to understand the effects of implementing the alternatives. Where impacts to resources would be slight or nonexistent, descriptions are brief or are omitted.

More detailed descriptions of the resources in the EIS area and of regional socioeconomic conditions appear in the planning documents for the Yuma District. Copies of these documents may be reviewed in the Yuma District Office, Yuma, Arizona, and the Havasu Resource Area Office, Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

DEAD MOUNTAINS NORTHERN ADDITION

(AZ-050-01) — 1,815 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. This WSA is in San Bernardino County, California, about 5 miles southwest of Riviera, Arizona, and 10 miles northwest of Needles, California. It is bounded on the north and west by the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Dead Mountains WSA (CDCA-276) (not recommended suitable) and elsewhere by state and private lands. A transmission line and maintenance road form the eastern boundary. One parcel of state land (covering 90 acres) is included in the area.

Naturalness. The WSA lies on a bajada sloping eastward from the Dead Mountains, with gently rolling hills and deeply cut washes. Vegetative cover is sparse, primarily creosote, bursage and cholla. Vegetation normally associated with desert washes is entirely lacking. The area is primitive, with no human imprints, and appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature.

Solitude. This WSA offers outstanding opportunities for solitude only if it is considered as an integral part of the Dead Mountains WSA (CDCA-276).

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. This area offers outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only if it is considered as an integral part of the Dead Mountains WSA (CDCA-276).

Special Features. The WSA is habitat for the desert tortoise, a sensitive wildlife species.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Dead Mountains Northern Addition WSA is dispersed, although the greatest amount occurs in the desert washes. Present overall recreation use within the WSA is 250 visitor days per year.

Motorized Recreation. Most of the recreation in this area is vehicle-based. Motorized travel is restricted to existing vehicle ways. Off-road vehicle recreationists and small game hunters may enter the area from the powerline boundary road over approximately four miles of trails up eight desert washes. Other recreation uses include rockhounding in the desert washes.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts only a few users engaged in nonmotorized recreation activities. Recreation uses include hiking in the desert washes.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The area has low to moderate potential for sites. It is estimated that there may be one potentially eligible *National Register* site in the area.

NATIVE AMERICAN CONCERNS

The adjoining Dead Mountains are regarded by local Indians, especially the Mojave, as home of the souls of their deceased. However, it is not known whether this belief extends to lands within the WSA.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The desert tortoise (a sensitive species Category 2) is known to live in washes and foothills in low densities of fewer than 20 individuals per square mile. Table 3-1 lists the sensitive wildlife species within the WSA. The scientific names for all listed species are included in Appendices A and B.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-1, CDCA "F") follows the transmission line along the area's eastern boundary for approximately four miles. This corridor extends one-half mile into the WSA.

TABLE 3-1

SPECIAL-STATUS PLANTS AND WILDLIFE

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District, Arizona

Special-Status Species	Status	Dead Mountains North	Dead Mountains South	Chemehuevi Mountains	Chemehuevi/ Needles	Needles Eastern	Crossman Peak	Mohave Wash	Whipple Mountains	Gibraltar Mountain	Planet Peak	Cactus Plain
PLANTS:												
Barrel Cactus	B	—	—	—	—	—	S	S	S	P	S	—
Death Valley Mormon Tea	B						—	—		—	—	X
Foxtail Cactus	B											
Linearleaf Sand Spurge	B						—	—		—	—	X
Night-Blooming Cereus	B						—	—		—		S
Sand Flat Milkvetch	B						—	—		—	—	X
Wiggins' Cholla	B											
Wooly Heads	B						—	—		—	—	X
REPTILES:												
Desert Night Lizard	B,D						S	—		—	—	—
Desert Tortoise	B,D	P	P	P	P	—	X	P	P	X	X	X
Flat-tailed Horned Lizard	B,D						—	—		—	—	X
Gila Monster	B						X	—		X	—	—
Gilbert's Skink	D						S	—		—	—	—
Mohave Fringe-Toed Lizard	B,D						—	—		—	—	X
MAMMALS:												
Desert Bighorn Sheep	D,F	—	—	S	S	—	X	X	X	X	X	—
Little Long-Nosed Bat	B	—	—	—	—	—			S			
Spotted Bat	B											
Yuma Puma	B											
BIRDS:												
Arizona Bell's Vireo	G						—	—		—	—	—
Bald Eagle	A,C,E						S	—		S	—	—
Cardinal	G						—	—		—	—	—
Cooper's Hawk	G											
Elf Owl	E						—	—		—	—	X
Ferruginous Hawk	B											
Gila Woodpecker	G						—	—		—	—	—
Gilded Flicker	G											
Harris Hawk	G											
Hepatic Tanager	G						—	—		—	—	—
Least Bittern	G						—	—		—	—	—
Merlin	G											
Northern Harrier	G						—	—		—	—	—
Peregrine Falcon	A,D,E						S	—		S	—	—
Prairie Falcon	G											
Sharp-Shinned Hawk	G											
Summer Tanager	G						—	—		—	—	—
Swainson's Hawk	B,G											
Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	B						—	—		—	—	—
White-Faced Ibis	B,G						—	—		—	—	—
Wied's Crested Flycatcher	G						—	—		—	—	—
Willow Flycatcher	G						—	—		—	—	—
Vermilion Flycatcher	G						—	—		—	—	—
Desert Bighorn Sheep	D,F	—	—	S	S	—	X	X	X	X	X	—
TOTAL SPECIES		1	1	2	2	0	8	3	4	6	3	9
Bighorn Population Estimate					—	—	25-30	28-53	—	3-18	1-5	—

Key Status:
A = Federal Endangered List
B = Federal Candidate Category 2
C = Arizona Group 2
D = Arizona Group 3
E = California Endangered
F = California Rare
G = California Special Concern

Occurrence:
X = Verified
P = Very Probably Occurs
S = Suitable Habitat, May Occur

TABLE 3-1 (Continued)

SPECIAL-STATUS PLANTS AND WILDLIFE

Special-Status Species	Swansea	East Cactus Plain	Big Maria Mountains North	Big Maria Mountains South	South Trigo Mountains	Trigo Mountains	Kofa Unit 3 South	Kofa Unit 4 North	Kofa Unit 4 South	Little Picacho Peak	Muggins Mountains
PLANTS:											
Barrel Cactus	S	S	S	X	—	—	—	—	—	—	S
Death Valley Mormon Tea	—	X									
Foxtail Cactus			S	X	—	S	—	—	—	S	—
Linearleaf Sand Spurge	—	X									
Night-Blooming Cereus	—	—	—	—	—	P	S	S	S	—	—
Sand Flat Milkvetch	—	X									
Wiggins' Cholla			—	S	—	—	S	S	S	—	S
Wooly Heads	—	X									
REPTILES:											
Desert Night Lizard	—	—									
Desert Tortoise	X	—	S	S	S	S	P	P	P	—	P
Flat-tailed Horned Lizard	—	X									
Gila Monster	X	—	—	—	S	S	S	S	P	—	S
Gilbert's Skink	—	—									
Mohave Fringe-Toed Lizard	—	X									
MAMMALS:											
Desert Bighorn Sheep	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Little Long-Nosed Bat											
Spotted Bat			—	—	S	S	S	S	S	—	S
Yuma Puma			—	—	—	P	—	—	—	—	—
BIRDS:											
Arizona Bell's Vireo	X	—									
Bald Eagle	—	—									
Cardinal	X	—									
Cooper's Hawk			—	—	S	S	—	—	—	S	—
Elf Owl		X									
Ferruginous Hawk			S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Gila Woodpecker	X	—									
Gilded Flicker	X										
Harris Hawk			—	—	P	S	—	—	—	S	—
Hepatic Tanager	X	—									
Least Bittern	X	—									
Merlin			S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	—
Northern Harrier	X	—	S	S	P	P	—	—	—	S	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	S	S	—	—	—	S	—
Prairie Falcon			—	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Sharp-Shinned Hawk			—	—	S	S	—	—	—	S	—
Summer Tanager	X	—									
Swainson's Hawk			—	—	S	S	S	S	S	S	—
Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	X	—									
White-Faced Ibis	X	—									
Wied's Crested Flycatcher	X	—									
Willow Flycatcher	X	—									
Vermilion Flycatcher	X	—									
TOTAL SPECIES	17	8	6	9	13	16	10	10	10	11	8
Bighorn Population Estimate	—	—	—	—	4-6	20-30	4	2	4	—	2

Key Status: A = Federal Endangered List
B = Federal Candidate Category 2
C = Arizona Group 2
D = Arizona Group 3
E = California Endangered
F = California Rare
G = California Special Concern

Occurrence: X = Verified
P = Very Probably Occurs
S = Suitable Habitat, May Occur

TABLE 3-1 (Continued)
SPECIAL-STATUS PLANTS AND WILDLIFE

Arizona Status Definitions:

Group 2 —	Extirpation of these species is highly probable if no recovery efforts are made. The continued presence of these species in Arizona is now in jeopardy.
Group 3 —	Serious threats to these species or to the habitats they occupy exists. The continued presence of these species in Arizona could be in jeopardy in the foreseeable future.

California Status Definitions:

Endangered —	Listed as endangered in California.
Rare —	Listed as rare in California.
Special Concern —	The California breeding population of this species may be extirpated if trends continue.

Federal Status Definitions:

Endangered —	Federally protected as an endangered species.
Candidate, Category 2 —	Those species for which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service does not have sufficient information on hand to support their being listed as Threatened or Endangered at this time. The Fish and Wildlife Service is actively seeking information on these species to determine if they warrant inclusion in a different category.

Scientific names for all species included in this table are listed in Appendix A and Appendix B.

DEAD MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-02) — 630 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. This WSA is 10 miles southwest of Riviera, Arizona, and 5 miles northeast of Needles, California, in San Bernardino County, California. It consists of two separate roadless areas that are bounded on the south and west by the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Dead Mountains WSA (CDCA-276) (not recommended suitable) and on the north and east by private land, a powerline maintenance road and a gas pipeline maintenance road.

Naturalness. The area is part of a bajada sloping eastward from the Dead Mountains. It has been dissected by small washes which has exposed older alluvial deposits. Vegetative cover is sparse, primarily creosote, bursage and cholla. Vegetation commonly associated with desert washes is conspicuously lacking. There are no human imprints in the area and the unit appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature.

Solitude. This WSA offers outstanding opportunities for solitude only if it is considered as an integral part of the Dead Mountains WSA (CDCA-276).

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The area offers outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only if it is considered as an integral part of the Dead Mountains WSA (CDCA-276).

Special Features. This WSA is habitat for the desert tortoise, a sensitive wildlife species.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Dead Mountains Southern Addition WSA is dispersed, although the greatest amount occurs in the desert washes. Present overall recreation use within the WSA is estimated to be fewer than 200 visitor days per year.

Motorized Recreation. Most of the recreation in this area is vehicle-based. Motorized travel is restricted to existing trails (vehicle ways). Off-road vehicle recreationists and small game hunters may enter the area from the powerline boundary road over approximately two miles of trails up three desert washes. Other recreation uses include rockhounding in the desert washes.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts only a few users engaged in nonmotorized recreation activities. Recreation uses include hiking in the desert washes.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The area has low to moderate potential for sites. It is estimated that there may be one potentially eligible *National Register* site in the area.

NATIVE AMERICAN CONCERNS

The adjoining Dead Mountains are regarded by local Indians, especially the Mojave, as home of the souls of their deceased. However, it is not known whether this belief extends to lands within the WSA.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The desert tortoise (a sensitive species Category 2) is known to live in washes and foothills in low densities of fewer than 20 individuals per square mile. Table 3-1 lists the sensitive wildlife species within the WSA.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-1, CDCA "F") follows the powerline along the area's eastern boundary for approximately two miles. This corridor covers most of the WSA.

CHEMEHUEVI MOUNTAINS ADDITION (AZ-050-03) — 195 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The WSA is about 11 miles southeast of Needles in San Bernardino County, California. The area is bounded by the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Chemehuevi Mountains WSA CDCA-310 along its western and southern boundaries and by the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge along its eastern edge. A maintained pipeline road forms the northern boundary.

Naturalness. The terrain in the WSA is rugged, with a 200-foot difference in altitude in less than 1/2-mile width. This area represents the topographic break between bajada and mountain base. Vegetation is sparse — mainly creosote and bursage. No human imprints are present and the unit appears to be primitive.

Solitude. This WSA would offer outstanding opportunities for solitude only if it is considered as an integral part of the Chemehuevi Mountain WSA (CDCA-310).

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The area would offer outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only if it were considered as an integral part of the Chemehuevi Mountain WSA (CDCA-310).

Special Features. Desert tortoise and desert bighorn sheep occur in this area. Both are sensitive wildlife species.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Chemehuevi Mountains Addition WSA is dispersed. Present annual recreation use within the WSA is 10 visitor days.

Motorized Recreation. No motorized recreation use presently occurs in this area. Access to the area is controlled by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company natural gas pipeline which blocks off-road vehicle entry. ORV activity does occur along the pipeline patrol road which parallels the unit's northern boundary.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts few users engaged in nonmotorized recreation activities. Existing recreation use is primarily small game hunting, hiking and rockhounding.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

It is estimated that the area has moderate cultural resources potential in the lower foothills and canyon mouths and low potential elsewhere. There is likely to be one potentially eligible *National Register* site in the area.

NATIVE AMERICAN CONCERNS

The WSA includes a small portion of the Chemehuevi Mountains, which have high traditional value for the Mojave, Chemehuevi and Halchidoma Indians.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The desert tortoise (a sensitive species Category 2) is known to live in washes and foothills, in low densities of less than 20 individuals per square mile.

Desert bighorn sheep, a state-listed, Group III species, may inhabit the WSA's isolated rough canyon and mountain terrain.

Table 3-1 summarizes sensitive wildlife species within the WSA.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-3, Interstate 40) follows the pipeline along the area's northern boundary. This corridor, which is 2 miles wide, covers the entire WSA.

CHEMEHUEVI/NEEDLES ADDITION (AZ-050-04) — 960 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. This WSA is on the western edge of Topock Gorge adjacent to the Colorado River some 5 miles south of Topock, Arizona, in San Bernardino County, California. The Havasu National Wildlife Refuge forms the WSA's northern and eastern boundaries while the western and southern edges are bounded by the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Chemehuevi Mountains WSA (CDCA-310) (recommended suitable).

Naturalness. The topography of the northern portion of this WSA is represented by resistant bedrock exposures common to the Topock Gorge. The southern half is distinguished by more gently rolling hills and broader, easterly-flowing washes. Vegetation is sparse, with creosote, bursage and cholla predominating. Palo verde and ironwood are in some of the broader washes. No human imprints are present and the unit appears to be in a natural state.

Solitude. This area would offer outstanding opportunities for solitude only if it were considered as an integral part of either the proposed Chemehuevi Mountain WSA (CDCA-310) or the Refuge's Needles Wilderness.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. This WSA would offer outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only if it were considered as an integral part of either proposed Chemehuevi Mountain WSA (CDCA-310) or the Refuge's Needles Wilderness.

Special Features. Desert tortoise and desert bighorn sheep live in this area. Both are sensitive wildlife species.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Chemehuevi/Needles Addition is dispersed and virtually nonexistent. Access to the area is limited to nonmotorized means.

The unit attracts some nonmotorized users. Present overall recreation use includes occasional small game hunting, rockhounding and hiking. Annual use totals 10 visitor days.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The area may have moderate potential for cultural resources. It is estimated that there is at least one potentially eligible *National Register* site in the WSA.

NATIVE AMERICAN CONCERNS

This unit includes a small portion of the Chemehuevi Mountains which have high traditional value for the Mojave, Chemehuevi and Halchidoma tribes.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The desert tortoise (a sensitive species Category 2) is known to live in washes and foothills in low densities of fewer than 20 individuals per square mile.

The Chemehuevi Mountains provide habitat for desert bighorn sheep, a California state-listed, rare species that inhabits isolated rough canyon and mountain terrain. Table 3-1 lists the two sensitive wildlife species in this WSA.

NEEDLES EASTERN ADDITION (AZ-050-05B) — 465 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. This WSA is six miles southeast of Topock in Mohave County, Arizona. The western boundary is contiguous with the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge and their proposed Needles Wilderness. It is bounded on the north by private land, on the east by a maintained road and on the south by private lands.

Naturalness. The unit includes a small portion of the rugged northern end of the Mohave Mountains. It is dissected by minor washes which feed into a major north-flowing wash along the eastern boundary. Vegetative cover is sparse. Creosote, bursage and cholla are dominant with a small number of palo verde in washes. The area has been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with no developments and only two vehicle ways.

Solitude. This WSA would offer outstanding opportunities for solitude only if it is considered as an integral part of the proposed Havasu National Wildlife Refuge Needles Wilderness.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. This unit would offer outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only if it is considered as an integral part of the proposed Havasu National Wildlife Refuge Needles Wilderness.

Special Features. The WSA is habitat for the desert tortoise and desert bighorn sheep, both of which are sensitive wildlife species.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Needles Eastern Addition WSA is dispersed, although most is vehicle-based near two vehicle ways crossing the unit. Present overall recreation use is 50 VDY.

Motorized Recreation. Most of the recreation occurring in the area is vehicle based. Off-road vehicle recreationists, small game hunters and campers may enter the area from the east boundary road over one of two vehicle ways totaling 1/2 mile in length which traverse the southwestern corner and north central section of the unit or via a 1/2-mile desert wash at the north end of the unit. Other recreational uses include rockhounding.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The unit attracts few users engaging in nonmotorized recreation activities. Recreation uses include hiking.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The area has low to moderate potential for sites. It is estimated that there may be one potentially eligible *National Register* site in the area.

WILDLIFE VALUES

Table 3-1 lists the sensitive wildlife species in the WSA. The desert bighorn sheep, a sensitive wildlife species, is present in the area. The Yuma District RMP identifies this unit as containing bighorn sheep habitat.

CROSSMAN PEAK (AZ-050-07B) — 38,630 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. Crossman Peak WSA lies in southern Mohave County approximately 10 miles northeast of Lake Havasu City, Arizona. The WSA is bounded by maintained roads, a transmission line right-of-way and state and private lands. Eight cherrystem roads (totaling approximately 14 miles) penetrate the area. One parcel of private land (covering 20 acres) is also included in the area.

Naturalness. The Crossman Peak WSA generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with human influences substantially unnoticeable. The WSA's topography is characteristically steep, complex and dissected by numerous drainages. The steep rocky slopes, thin soil cover and 5-inch annual rainfall produce a sparse vegetative cover, consisting mainly of desert shrubs and grasses, chollas and prickly pear cactus, with scattered pinyon and Joshua trees on the peaks and ridges.

TABLE 3-2

CRUCIAL BIGHORN HABITATS & RIPARIAN HABITAT BY ALTERNATIVE

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District Office, Arizona

		Crucial Bighorn Habitat		Riparian Habitat			
		Acres		Wilderness		Nonwilderness	
WSA	Alternative	Wilderness	Nonwilderness	Acres	Miles	Acres	Miles
Dead Mountains Northern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dead Mountains Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemehuevi Mountains Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemehuevi/Needles Addition	Proposed Action/All Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Needles Eastern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	465	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	465	0	0	0	0	0
Crossman Peak	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	13,700	8,550	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	22,250	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	22,250	0	0	0	0
Mohave Wash	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	15,486	24,476	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	39,962	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	39,962	0	0	0	0
Whipple Mountains Addition	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	1,260	120	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	1,380	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	1,380	0	0	0	0
Gibraltar Mountain	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	14,800	8,510	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	23,310	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	23,310	0	0	0	0
Planet Peak	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	6,375	50	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	6,425	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	6,425	0	0	0	0
Cactus Plain	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Enhanced Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swansea	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	0	0	530	6	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	530	6	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	0	0	530	6
East Cactus Plain	Proposed Action/All Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	1,420	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	1,420	0	0	0	0	0
South Trigo Mountains	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	4,500	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	4,500	0	0	0	0	0
Trigo Mountains	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	29,095	7,775	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	36,870	0	0	0	0	0
	Enhanced Wilderness	34,240	2,630	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	36,870	0	0	0	0
Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	3,400	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	3,400	0	0	0	0	0
Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	1,380	520	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	1,900	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	1,900	0	0	0	0
Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	11,220	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	11,220	0	0	0	0	0
Little Picacho Peak Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	2,915	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	2,915	0	0	0	0	0
Muggins Mountains	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	8,855	5,600	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	14,455	0	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	14,455	0	0	0	0

Source: Yuma District Files

The unit is in essentially natural condition, but human activity is indicated by livestock water developments, corrals, four wildlife water catchments, mining tunnels and prospect pits, remnants of old buildings and a network of vehicle ways. While these intrusions exist, their overall impact on the natural condition of the unit is dissipated and made negligible by the characteristically rugged and complex topography.

Solitude. Opportunities for solitude in Crossman Peak WSA are available through much of the WSA because of rugged terrain. Outstanding opportunities for solitude are available over much of the WSA's interior. The WSA's complex topography screens out the evidence of man's works and the presence of humans, even in substantial numbers. Outside developments, such as Lake Havasu City, have minor impact on the solitude opportunities within the unit, affecting a few areas on the west side.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. Crossman Peak WSA has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Like many desert mountain ranges, the Crossman Peak portion of the Mohave Mountains appears more attractive for primitive recreation when observed from a close perspective as opposed to a distant one. The unit offers diverse vegetation, wildlife and terrain which are highly desirable settings for foot and horseback travel. The rugged interior presents challenges to foot travel, and the constant variation of scenery and vegetation is rewarding to recreationists. The lower elevations on the northern end offer less demanding terrain.

Special Features. The unit contains habitat for desert bighorn sheep (a sensitive wildlife species), the southern-most extension of Joshua trees in the Colorado River Valley area, an isolated stand of pinyon pines, and a few old mines which may have some historic value. The WSA is possible habitat for the barrel cactus, a sensitive plant species. Crossman Peak WSA has prehistoric rock art (petroglyphs) and other prehistoric cultural remains. Crossman Peak also offers an imposing and relatively undisturbed backdrop to Lake Havasu and the highly developed Lake Havasu City area.

MINERAL RESOURCES

The area lies within the Chemehuevi Mining District, which has produced 1,500 tons of copper, lead, gold, silver and tungsten ores, mainly between 1913 and 1958 (Keith et al. 1983). A U.S. Geological Survey study indicates that the area has high potential for small deposits of gold, silver, and tungsten (USDI-USGS 1983b). Positive geochemical anomalies and patterns of alteration in the central part of the wilderness study area provide evidence that there is moderate to low potential for additional deposits of base metals. The Crossman Peak Wilderness Study Area and immediate environs contain 43 separate mineralized areas that have been mined or prospected. Sixteen of these areas are reported to have produced some ore and several other areas probably produced some high-grade ore (USDI-USBM 1983). There is high potential for deposits of riprap and of sand and gravel, and moderate potential for small deposits of perlite, opal and manganese in the area.

As of November 18, 1986, 122 mining claims were in the WSA. Crossman Peak WSA also has high potential for gold, silver and tungsten, which are all on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Critical and Strategic Materials*.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Crossman Peak WSA is dispersed, except along cherry-stemmed roads and vehicle ways which receive some concentrated use. Present overall recreation within the WSA is 2,500 VDY.

Motorized Recreation. About half of the recreation in this area is vehicle-based. Off-road vehicle recreationists, upland bird and small game hunters and other recreationists may enter the area from the boundary roads over approximately 14 miles of cherry-stemmed roads and 13 miles of vehicle ways. This vehicle access network provides the principal access for all recreation activities, including nonmotorized uses. Other recreation use includes rockhounding, recreational mining, sightseeing, and deer and bighorn sheep hunting.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts 1,250 visitor days of users engaged in nonmotorized recreation activities. Recreation uses include hiking, horseback riding and sightseeing, as well as some deer and bighorn sheep hunting.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Based on current information from project-specific surveys, the lower foothills, canyon mouths, and spring areas are estimated to have high potential for cultural resources, while the higher elevations have low potential. Springs in the WSA are focal points for two site locations. A total of six potentially eligible National Register sites is predicted for the area.

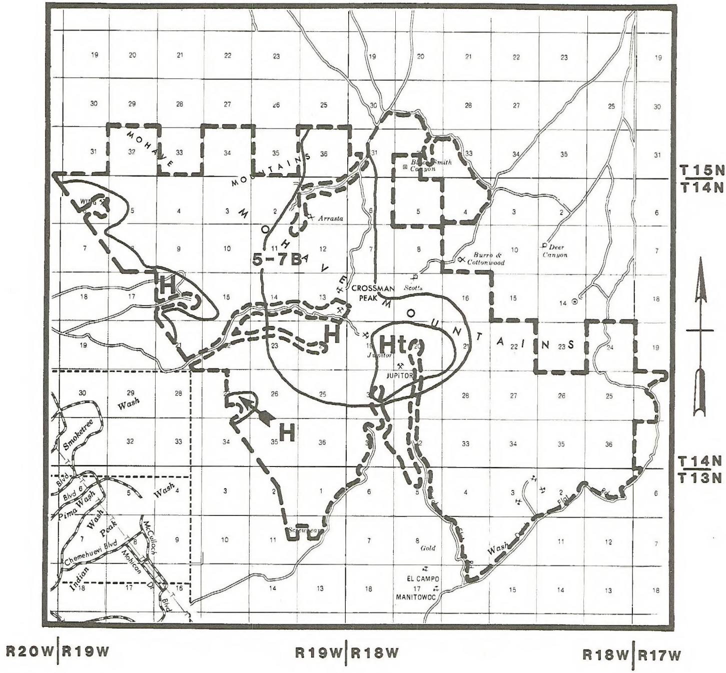
NATIVE AMERICAN CONCERNS

Crossman Peak is known to have significance in the traditional beliefs of the Chemehuevi and Mojave Indians and may also be important to the Hualapai and Western Yavapai Indians.

WILDLIFE VALUES

Desert bighorn sheep, an Arizona State-listed, Group III species, inhabit the Mohave Mountains, with the area around Crossman Peak representing the southern end of their range. One of the few lambing areas for the sheep is immediately northwest of Crossman Peak. Within the WSA, approximately 29,400 acres of crucial habitat support a fairly stable population of 25-30 sheep.

MAP 3-1



MINERAL POTENTIAL

H HIGH POTENTIAL FOR PRECIOUS METAL RESOURCES

ALL OF WSA HAS MODERATE POTENTIAL FOR BASE & PRECIOUS METAL RESOURCES

Ht HIGH POTENTIAL FOR TUNGSTEN RESOURCES

/ BOUNDARY OF MINERAL POTENTIAL

Source: USGS MF 1602-A

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
BASEMAP© ADOT

CROSSMAN PEAK 5-7B

TABLE 3-3

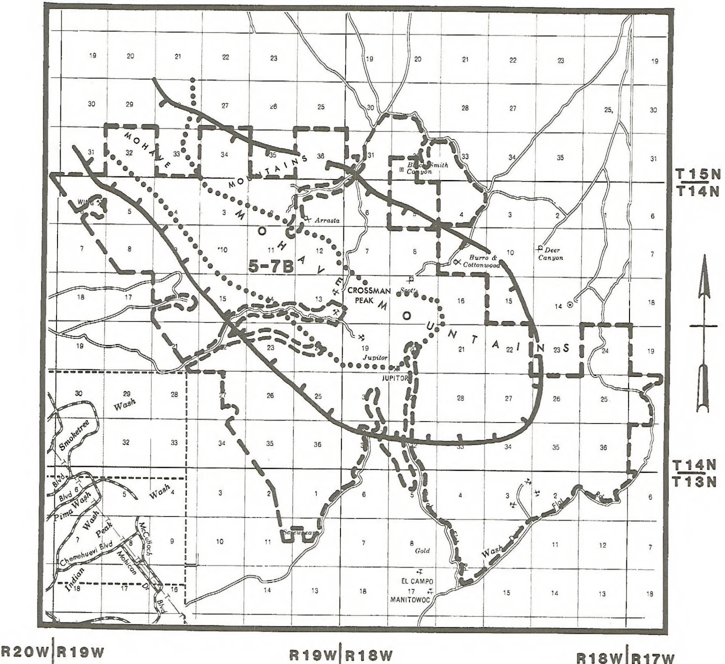
MINERAL POTENTIAL BY ALTERNATIVE

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District Office, Arizona

WSA	Alternative	ACRES SUITABLE		ACRES NONSUITABLE	
		High Potential	Moderate Potential	High Potential	Moderate Potential
Dead Mountains Northern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0
Dead Mountains Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0
Chemehuevi Mountains Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0
Chemehuevi/Needles Addition	Proposed Action/All Wilderness	0	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	0	0
Needles Eastern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0
Crossman Peak	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	7,360	11,930	3,024	16,316
	All Wilderness	10,384	28,246	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	10,384	28,246
Mohave Wash	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	7,110	21,240	27,750	47,265
	All Wilderness	34,860	63,825	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	34,860	63,825
Whipple Mountains Addition	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	0	1,260	0	120
	All Wilderness	0	1,380	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	0	1,380
Gibraltar Mountain	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	2,820	100	5,280	120
	All Wilderness	8,100	220	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	8,100	220
Planet Peak	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	8,750	0	680	0
	All Wilderness	9,430	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	9,430	0
Cactus Plain	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	0	2,836	0	2,023
	All Wilderness	0	4,859	0	0
	Enhanced Wilderness	0	3,536	0	1,323
	No Wilderness	0	0	0	4,859
Swansea	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	184	5,198	7,314	11,132
	All Wilderness	7,498	16,330	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	7,498	16,330
East Cactus Plain	Proposed Action/All Wilderness	0	2,714	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	0	2,714
Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0
Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0
South Trigo Mountains	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	4,500	0
	All Wilderness	4,500	0	0	0
Trigo Mountains	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	13,437	15,548	6,205	644
	All Wilderness	19,642	16,192	0	0
	Enhanced Wilderness	17,480	15,824	2,162	368
	No Wilderness	0	0	19,642	16,192
Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0
Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	0	0	520	0
	All Wilderness	520	0	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	520	0
Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	0	0
	All Wilderness	0	0	0	0
Little Picacho Peak Addition	Proposed Action/No Wilderness	0	0	1,920	0
	All Wilderness	1,920	0	0	0
Muggins Mountains	Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness	0	150	0	586
	All Wilderness	0	736	0	0
	No Wilderness	0	0	0	736

Source: Yuma District Files

MAP 3-1A



PRIORITY WILDLIFE HABITAT

DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP

YEARLONG USE AREA ┴┴┴
22,250 ACRES

LAMBING GROUNDS ●●●●●●
7275 ACRES

SOURCE: BW-CP HMP 1983
CROSSMAN PEAK
RADAR PROPOSAL
RMP

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
BASEMAP© ADOT

CROSSMAN PEAK 5-7B

Two sensitive species, Category 2, may be in low densities within the unit. Desert tortoise may inhabit foothills and wash areas, with fewer than 20 individuals per square mile. Gila monsters may live in rocky foothills and canyons near permanent water sources, in densities fewer than 10 individuals per square mile.

The WSA may provide habitat for two other sensitive species. Desert night lizard may inhabit the Joshua tree stand on the northeastern side of the Mohave Mountains. Gilbert's skink, a State-listed Group III species, may occur in scrub oak woodland at the upper end of canyons on the east side of the Mohave Mountains.

In addition, two federally-listed endangered species, the southern bald eagle and American peregrine falcon may be seen during spring and fall as visiting migrants. Table 3-1 lists the sensitive wildlife species occurring in the WSA.

PROTECTED PLANTS

The unit includes possible habitat for a sensitive plant species. Barrel cactus (*Ferocactus acanthodes* var. *acanthodes*) may be found on gravelly or rocky slopes, canyon walls, gravelly fans and wash margins in the Mohave Mountains, at elevations ranging from 600 to 2,000 or 3,000 feet. This species is a candidate species for Federal listing as either Endangered or Threatened, Candidate Category 2. Table 3-1 summarizes the sensitive plant species occurring in each WSA.

LAND USES

The west boundary powerline forms the centerline of the Davis-Parker (Route B) utility corridor which was not designated in the RMP. The alternate corridor, Davis-Parker (Route A), runs parallel and west of Route B.

MOHAVE WASH
(AZ-050-07C/050-48/020-52)
103,365 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. This WSA is about three miles northeast of Parker Dam and six miles southeast of Lake Havasu City, Mohave County, Arizona. The area embraces most of the lower Mohave Wash drainage and includes Black Mountain, Mohave Springs Mesa, the Bill Williams Mountains and the Castaneda Hills. The unit is bounded by transmission lines, maintained roads, Arizona State Highway 95, state and private lands, the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge and Lake Havasu State Park. Four cherrystem roads (totaling approximately 15 miles) penetrate the area. Nine parcels of state inholdings (totaling 3,400 acres) and twelve parcels of private inholdings (totaling 6,480 acres) are also included in the area.

Naturalness. Topography within this large WSA is highly varied. The Mohave drainage is a complex system of washes that includes the main stem, Middle Mohave Wash, West Mohave Wash and Paloma Wash. The highlands dissected by these washes include the volcanic tableland in the vicinity of Black Mountain and Mohave Springs Mesa, the spires of Castaneda Hills and the rugged Bill Williams Mountains.

Sonoran desert shrub is the common vegetation type on the unit. Vegetative cover is primarily mixed desert shrub of creosote bush, boxthorn, red barrel cactus, beavertail cactus and ocotillo. Vegetation in the washes is comprised of palo verde, ironwood, burrobush, brittlebush, smoketree and catclaw acacia.

The Mohave Wash WSA is predominantly natural. Human imprints in the area are the result of grazing, mining activities, and a network of vehicle ways. Most grazing has been in the Mohave Wash drainages. Mining activities are concentrated in the Paloma Wash area. However, none are presently active and many have been long-abandoned. The unit generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, although the grazing, mining activities and the vehicle way network may appear to be widespread, their overall affect is dissipated by the unit's large area and varied terrain and they are substantially unnoticeable in most instances.

Solitude. The highly varied terrain that characterizes much of this WSA enhances its ability to offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. The deep winding drainages formed by main washes offer topographic and vegetative screening, making it possible for the user to find a secluded spot. The dissected highlands and complex peaks and ridges provide an extensive, untouched area in which the presence of others would not be readily apparent. The interior areas are isolated in elevation and distance from the surrounding areas so that they are not influenced by the developments along Lake Havasu and the Colorado River.

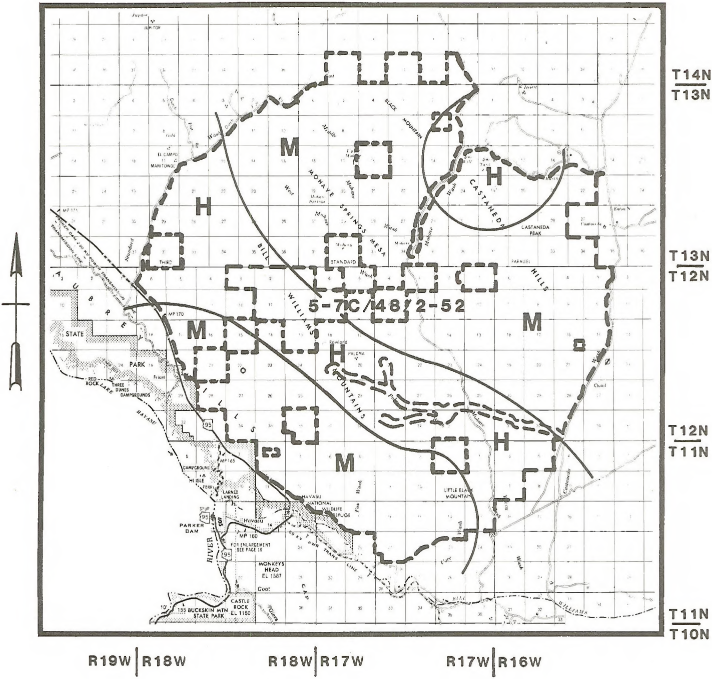
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. This WSA offers outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation including hiking, photography, sightseeing, rockhounding, horseback riding and nature study. The unit's varied terrain offers numerous opportunities and challenges to gain vistas and stark views from many destination points. Although scattered, bighorn sheep, deer and other wildlife enhance the area opportunities for primitive recreation.

Special Features. The Bill Williams Mountains and Castaneda Hills support populations of bighorn sheep. The southern edge of the unit, along the Bill Williams River is an area of high scenic value that is characterized by vertical cliffs, spires, highly eroded formations and severe surface variations.

MINERAL RESOURCES

The relationship of base and precious metal mineralization low angle detachment faults has been described (Wilkins and Heidrich 1982, Spencer and Welty 1986). The Whipple Mountains detachment fault is described to underlie the Mohave Mountains and could be projected into

MAP 3-2



MINERAL POTENTIAL

M	MODERATE POTENTIAL
H	HIGH POTENTIAL
/	BOUNDARY OF MINERAL POTENTIAL

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
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MOHAVE WASH 5-7C/48/2-52

Bill Williams Mountains. As late as 1987, little is known of mineralization in this area by USGS and USBM. The older rocks are reported to be faulted and structurally complex.

Field investigations have reported quartz and granitoid veins of Cretaceous age, with gold and copper mineralization, and wulfonite (McDonnell 1987, Evans 1987). Prospect activities have been conducted along Paloma Wash and workings intensify in the Rowland Peak area of the Bill Williams Mountains. Other prospect workings are concentrated in the extreme north end of the Castaneda Hills, where copper stains are found in fractured Miocene volcanic rocks.

Tentatively, there is a moderate potential for the occurrence of metallic metal mineralization.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Mohave Wash WSA is dispersed, except along cherry-stemmed roads and vehicle ways which receive some concentrated use. Present overall annual recreation use is 2,000 visitor days, and is almost entirely vehicle-based.

Motorized Recreation. Most of the recreation occurring in this area is vehicle-based. Off-road vehicle recreationists, upland bird and small game hunters, small mammal trappers, campers and other recreationists may enter the area from the boundary roads over approximately 15 miles of cherry-stemmed roads, approximately 50 miles of vehicle ways and several washes. This vehicle access network provides the principal access for all recreation activities, including nonmotorized uses. Other recreation uses include rockhounding, recreational mining and sightseeing.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The unit attracts few users engaging in nonmotorized recreation activities. Recreation uses include hiking and sightseeing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Based on current information from project-specific and sampling surveys, site locations are tethered to water sources and game resources. The area as a whole is estimated to have moderate potential for cultural resource sites. Five potentially eligible National Register sites are estimated to be present in the area.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The Aubrey Hills and Bill Williams Mountains both provide habitat for desert bighorn sheep, an Arizona State-listed Group III species, that inhabits isolated rough canyon and mountain terrain. Within the WSA, 39,962 acres of crucial habitat may support 0.1 to 0.5 individuals per square mile, or 6 to 31 sheep. A recent release of 22 sheep by Arizona Game and Fish Department would increase the estimated population to 28 to 53 sheep. Desert tortoise (sensitive species, Category 2) may inhabit washes and foothills in low densities of less than 20 individuals per square mile.

PROTECTED PLANTS

The unit includes possible habitat for barrel cactus, a sensitive plant species, and the only plant species listed for this WSA on Table 3-1.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-2A, Davis-Parker "A") follows the transmission lines along a portion of the area's southwestern boundary for approximately three miles. This corridor extends 1/2 mile into the WSA.

WHIPPLE MOUNTAINS ADDITION (AZ-050-10) — 1,380 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The Whipple Mountains Addition is located about 5 miles northwest of Parker Dam in San Bernardino County, California. This WSA is bounded on the west by the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Whipple Mountains WSA CDCA-312 and elsewhere by maintained powerline roads and state and private lands.

Naturalness. The unit includes a portion of the rugged eastern Whipple Mountains, and is dissected by four small washes. Vegetation is sparse — creosote, bursage, brittlebush and cholla, with palo verde in the washes. The area is one of the few locations for foothills palo verde, which hybridizes with blue palo verde along the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Numerous prospects and abandoned mine shafts are in the area, but these operations are not substantially noticeable. The unit generally appears to be natural.

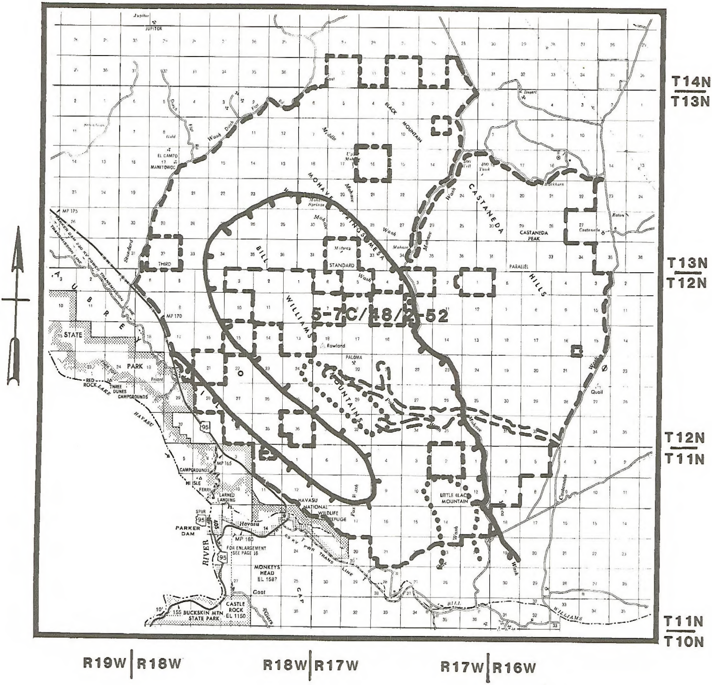
Solitude. This WSA would offer outstanding opportunities for solitude only if it is considered as an integral part of the California Whipple Mountains WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. This unit would offer outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only if it is considered as an integral part of the California Whipple Mountains WSA.

Special Features. Two sensitive wildlife species, desert bighorn sheep and desert tortoise, live in the WSA. The Whipple Mountains have the largest stand of Saguaro found in California and more than 100 species of vascular plants have been recorded in the general area. The barrel cactus, a sensitive plant species, is found in the unit.

Packrat middens are present in the Whipple Mountains proper. These are important to vegetation and environmental reconstruction spanning the past 40,000 years.

MAP 3-2A



PRIORITY WILDLIFE HABITAT

DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP

YEARLONG USE AREA 39,962 ACRES ┴┴┴

LAMBING GROUNDS 3364 ACRES ••••••

SOURCE: AGFD MAP BW-CP HMP 1983

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District

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MOHAVE WASH 5-7C/48/2-52

The Whipple Mountains are sacred to most of the Colorado River Indian Tribes and contain numerous ritual and sacred sites. A majority of the geologic formations in the Mountains have spiritual significance.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Base and precious metal mineralization has been related to detachment faulting and these similarities have been recognized in the Whipple Mountains (Wilkins and Heidrick 1982). The predominant metal assemblage in the Whipples consists of barium, manganese, iron, copper, gold and silver. These deposits have a relation to a hydrothermal system and are found in rocks ranging from Precambrian to Miocene (Ridenour et al. 1982).

There are no reported economic mineral deposits within the WSA, but significant metallic mineral deposits are within a few miles. The Miocene detachments have been studied in this area (Teel 1982). The Copper Basin mine, two miles from the WSA's southernmost boundary, produced copper prior to World War II and has demonstrated reserves of 7,200 tons of copper. The Monument King and Moulton mines, approximately five miles to the southeast, produced more than 702 tons of manganese during the two world wars. Geological studies in the adjacent Whipple Mountains WSA indicate potential for copper, gold, silver, lead and manganese.

Nearby deposits with recorded production and the minerals potential of the adjacent CDCA Whipple Mountain WSA indicate a moderate potential for metallic mineralization in this WSA. Nine mining claims preceded the Bureau of Reclamation withdrawal that is currently in effect on the WSA.

Copper, manganese, gold, silver and lead are all found near the WSA and are all listed on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Materials*.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Whipple Mountains Addition WSA is dispersed, with most use near the powerline boundary road and in the southwest corner of Section 27. Present overall recreation use is 100 VDY.

Motorized Recreation. Much of the recreational use in this area is vehicle based. Off-road vehicle recreationists and other users may enter this area from the 3 miles of powerline boundary road over approximately 1 mile of vehicle ways.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts few users engaged in nonmotorized recreation activities. Nonmotorized recreation includes hiking, sightseeing, wildlife (bighorn sheep) viewing, photography and rockhounding.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The area has a moderate potential for cultural resources, with at least two potentially eligible *National Register* sites.

NATIVE AMERICAN CONCERNS

This WSA is a portion of the Whipple Mountains, which have numerous ritual sites and mountainous areas that are important in the traditional beliefs for the Colorado River Indian Tribes. A majority of the geologic formations in the range have significance for these tribes. There are many trails in and across the WSA.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The desert tortoise (a sensitive species, Category 2) is known to live in washes and foothills in low densities of fewer than 20 individuals per square mile.

The Whipple Mountains are historic range for desert bighorn sheep, a state-listed, Group III species that inhabits isolated canyon and mountain terrain. All of this unit contains crucial habitat for the species. Current population for the Whipple Mountains range is estimated to be 100 sheep.

The unit also contains possible habitat for the little long-nosed bat, a sensitive species, Category 2, that inhabits caves, old mine tunnels and buildings.

Table 3-1 lists the sensitive wildlife species within this WSA.

PROTECTED PLANTS

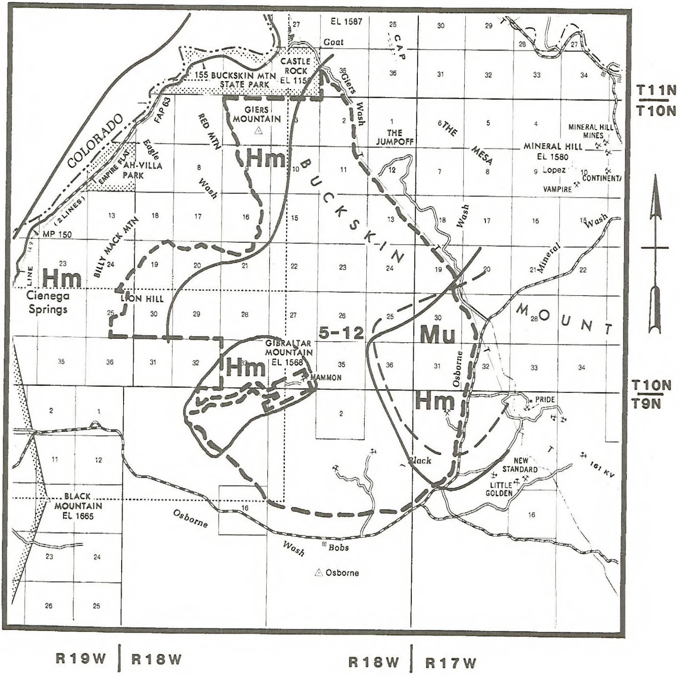
The Whipple Mountains WSA has the largest (120 individuals) of only a few stands of saguaro cactus found in California, and includes possible habitat for a Candidate Category 2 plant species. The barrel cactus (*Ferocactus acanthodes* var. *acanthodes*) may be found on gravelly or rocky slopes, canyon walls, gravelly fans and wash margins at 600 to 3,000 feet elevation. Sensitive plant species within this WSA are summarized in Table 3-1.

GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN (AZ-050-12) — 25,260 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. Gibraltar Mountain WSA lies at the western end of the Buckskin Mountains, approximately 10 miles northeast of Parker in La Paz County, Arizona. The unit is bounded by maintained roads, state lands, public lands under a long-term recreation lease, and public lands lacking wilderness characteristics. One cherrystem road (extending approximately two miles) penetrates the area from the southwest. One parcel of private land (covering 75 acres) is also included in the area.

MAP 3-3



MINERAL POTENTIAL

\ **Mu** MODERATE POTENTIAL URANIUM

/ **Hm** HIGH POTENTIAL METALLIC MINERALS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
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GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN 5-12

Naturalness. Gibraltar Mountain WSA is predominantly natural with human imprints largely unnoticeable. The unit is largely a rugged mass of volcanic rock dissected by deep, sandy washes and rocky canyons. Vegetation is sparse and consists mainly of creosote bush, staghorn cholla and barrel cactus, with several dense concentrations of palo verde in the washes.

The only human imprints are the result of grazing, mining and wildlife management activities — 1) a livestock water development at the southern end of the unit, 2) remnants of past mining activity that include scattered sites with shafts, an adit, several prospects, scattered bulldozer trails and vehicle trails and ways and 3) a tunnel water catchment/storage facility for wildlife in the southern part. These human imprints are sufficiently scattered and concealed by the unit's complex terrain as to render them substantially unnoticeable.

Solitude. The unit shows outstanding opportunities for solitude over most of its area. The rugged topography and intricate vegetation screen people from the sights, sounds and evidence of other people. The topography ranges from open sandy washes to narrow rocky canyons, steep narrow ridges and rugged peaks, and allows for use dispersion — further reducing the probability of a group or individual encountering another group or individual. The canyons limit the intrusion of sights and sounds from either outside or within the unit. Locally dense vegetation in drainages further acts to enhance solitude opportunities.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. Gibraltar Mountain WSA has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The canyons and lower ridges provide a variety of hiking and equestrian opportunities and the mountain areas provide challenging rock climbing routes. Scenic views, desert wildlife and interesting physical features reward the visitor.

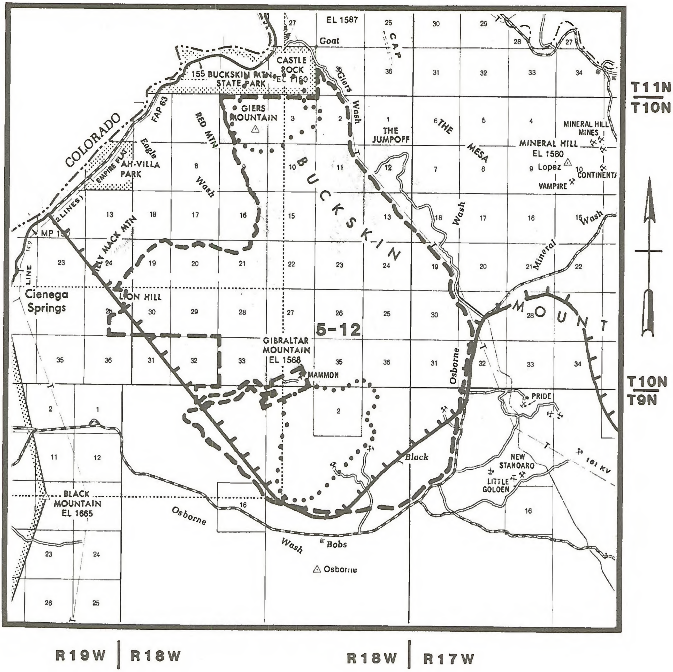
Special Features. The area contains habitat for desert bighorn sheep and desert tortoise, both of which are sensitive wildlife species. It is also possible habitat for the barrel cactus, a sensitive plant species. A cultural resource site with potential for inclusion in the *National Register of Historic Places* is located within the area.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Gibraltar Mountain WSA lies within the Cienega Mining District, which produced 19,000 tons of gold, copper and silver ores between 1870 and 1969 (Keith et al. 1983). Seven such deposits (copper, silver and gold) are present within the WSA and three of these have had significant production and have produced 8,970 tons of ore. This includes the Mammon District which produced 87,000 pounds of copper. Two deposits just outside the WSA boundary have also had significant production; one produced 10,000 ounces of gold and the other produced 3,000 tons of copper ore (Cruver et al. 1982).

One placer gold deposit with minor production is within the WSA.

MAP 3-3A



PRIORITY WILDLIFE HABITAT

DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP

YEARLONG USE AREA ┴┴┴
23,310 ACRES

LAMBING GROUNDS ••••••••
3,350 ACRES

SOURCE: AGFD
RMP

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District
BASEMAP© ADOT

GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN 5-12

The Geology, Energy and Minerals (GEM) assessment for the area indicates a high potential for metallic minerals in the extreme eastern and western portions of the unit, and also identifies a moderate potential for uranium in the northeastern portion of the unit (Cruver et al. 1982). As of November 1986, there were 60 mining claims in the WSA. Gold, copper, and silver, for which the unit has high potential, are all on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Materials*.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Gibraltar Mountain WSA is dispersed, although some concentrated use occurs along the cherry-stemmed road and vehicle ways. The western part of the unit receives the majority of use. Present overall use within the WSA is 1,000 VDY with motor vehicle use accounting for approximately 90 percent of the use.

Motorized Recreation. Most recreation in the area is motor vehicle based. Off-road vehicle recreationists, small game hunters and other recreation users may enter the area from the perimeter roads over a 2-mile cherry-stemmed road, approximately 17 miles of vehicle ways and several desert washes. This vehicle access network provides the principal access for other recreation activities occurring in the area, such as rockhounding and a low level of big game hunting. The Parker 400 ORV race course runs along a portion of the southern boundary, but current race management limits race-related recreation to areas outside this unit.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts only a few users engaging in nonmotorized recreation activities. Recreation uses include hiking.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

It is estimated that the unit has moderate potential for cultural resources. At least thirty archaeologic sites are likely, among them the Black Tank Archaeological District, eligible for inclusion on the *National Register of Historic Places*, and an aboriginal trail. Another five potentially eligible *National Register* sites may be in the unit.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The desert tortoise (a sensitive species, Category 2) is known to inhabit the foothills and wash areas around Gibraltar Mountain, in low densities of fewer than 20 individuals per square mile.

Desert bighorn sheep, a state-listed, Group III species, inhabit an extensive area in the Buckskin Mountains, with the area around Gibraltar Mountain representing the southwestern end of the range. One of the few lambing areas for the sheep is south of Gibraltar Mountain; another is on Giers Mountain, at the north end of the WSA. Within the WSA, 23,310 acres of crucial habitat may support an estimated population of 0.1 to 0.5 individuals per square mile, or 3 to 18 sheep.

The Gila monster, another sensitive species, Category 2, may be found in rocky foothills and canyons near permanent water sources. Population is estimated at low densities of fewer than 10 individuals per square mile.

Two federally listed endangered species, southern bald eagles and American peregrine falcons, may inhabit rugged slopes within the WSA during spring and fall migration.

Table 3-1 summarizes the sensitive wildlife species inhabiting the Gibraltar Mountain WSA.

PROTECTED PLANTS

As listed on Table 3-1, the unit includes possible habitat for a sensitive plant species. Barrel cactus (*Ferocactus acanthodes* var. *acanthodes*), Candidate Category 2, may be found on gravelly or rocky slopes, canyon walls, fans, and wash margins in the Buckskin Mountains, at elevations above 800 feet.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-5, Parker-Liberty) follows a 250 kV transmission line along the area's northeastern boundary for approximately 8 miles. This corridor extends 1/2 mile into the WSA.

PLANET PEAK

(AZ-050-13) — 17,645 Acres

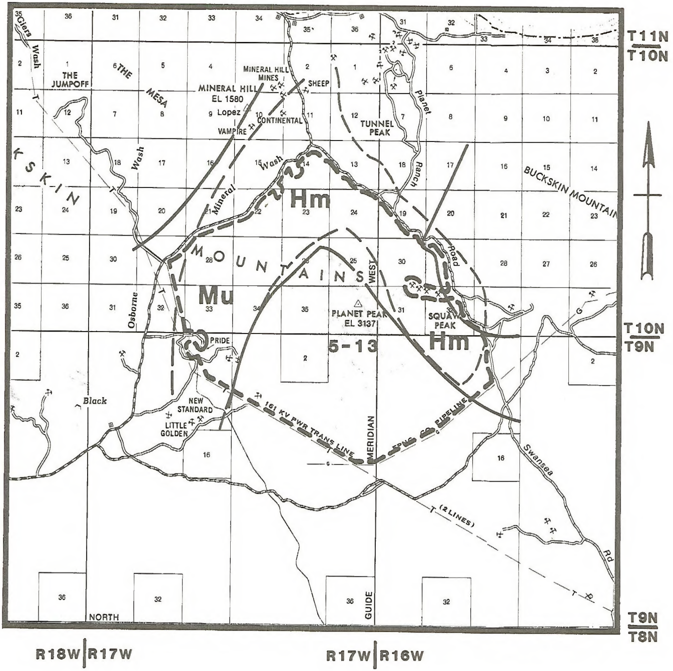
WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. Planet Peak WSA is 20 miles east of Parker in La Paz County, Arizona. The unit is bounded by the Central Arizona Project canal and a transmission line maintenance road on the west, a gas pipeline maintenance road on the southeast, and elsewhere by other maintained roads and small areas of public land lacking wilderness characteristics. Three short cherrystem roads (totaling approximately two miles) penetrate the area.

Naturalness. Planet Peak WSA generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with human influences substantially unnoticeable. The unit is a compact mass of rugged peaks and ridges, dominated by the 3,141-foot Planet Peak. Vegetation is mostly a thin cover of creosote bush, along with staghorn cholla, barrel cactus, palo verde, galleta grass and plantago.

Evidence of human activity is primarily from mining. Most mining operations are along the edge of the unit, with a few scattered operations in the unit's rugged interior. The interior mining consists principally of prospects with little surface disturbance. Some vehicle ways lead to these mining prospects. Nonmining-related human imprints are virtually nonexistent. Neither the interior nor nearby exterior mining activities have a serious impact on the unit's naturalness.

MAP 3-4



MINERAL POTENTIAL

\ **Mu** MODERATE POTENTIAL URANIUM

/ **Hm** HIGH POTENTIAL METALLIC MINERALS

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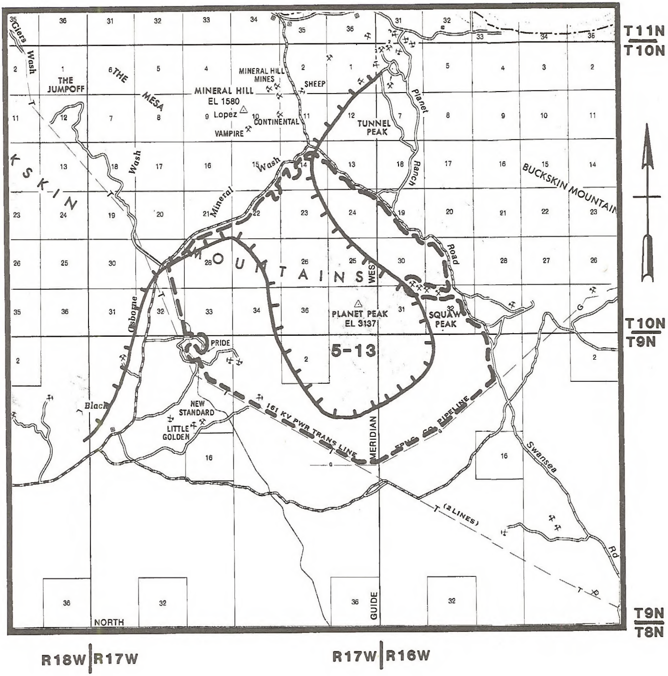
PLANET PEAK 5-13

MAP 3-4A



PRIORITY WILDLIFE HABITAT	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Bureau of Land Management — Yuma District BASEMAP© ADOT
DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP YEARLONG USE AREA ┴┴┴ 6425 ACRES SOURCE: BW-CP HMP 1983 MOON & BRISTOW 1972 RMP	

PLANET PEAK 5-13

Solitude. The rugged mountain mass covering most of the unit's interior offers outstanding opportunities for solitude. The interior peaks and ridges afford considerable topographic screening within a relatively small area.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. Planet Peak has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. While of relatively low elevation, the rugged and complex terrain that comprises the unit's interior offers outstanding opportunities and challenge for recreation activities such as hiking and rock climbing. Commanding views from the interior ridges and peaks offer a substantial reward for recreationists. Planet Peak itself offers rock climbing potential.

Special Features. Desert bighorn sheep, a sensitive wildlife species, live in the WSA.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Six mineral occurrences — including copper, gold, iron, manganese and uranium are located within or close to the WSA. One of these occurrences has produced several tons of ore. Two others are within the metamorphic core (Cruver et al. 1982). The area underlain or near the dislocated surface resulting from detachment faulting are favorable for mineral deposits (Wilkins and Heidrich 1982, Spencer and Welty 1986). Based upon direct evidence there areas within the WSA that have a high potential for metallic mineral occurrence.

In areas of chloritic breccia (Coney and Reynolds 1980) and Tertiary sediments, there is a moderate potential for uranium occurrences (Cruver et al. 1982).

As of December 1986 there were 137 mining claims within the WSA. Gold, copper, silver and uranium are all on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Materials*.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Planet Peak WSA is dispersed but is primarily near the boundaries because of limited access to the unit's interior. Present overall recreation use within the WSA is 100 VDY including the incidental use related to vehicle travel along the boundary roads.

Motorized Recreation. Most of the recreation in this area is related to vehicle use along the Mineral Wash and Planet Ranch roads, which form the unit's east boundary. The Central Arizona Project canal blocks recreation access on the southwest portion of the unit. Off-road vehicle users and other recreationists may enter the unit's interior over three cherrystem roads totalling about 2 miles and over a 3-mile vehicle way leading to inactive mines. Other recreation uses include rockhounding and small game hunting.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts only a few users engaged in nonmotorized recreation activities. Recreation uses include hiking and small game hunting.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The area has moderate potential for sites. It is estimated that there is at least one potentially eligible National Register site in the area.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The Buckskin Mountains provide extensive habitat for desert bighorn sheep, a state-listed, Group III species that inhabits isolated canyon and mountain terrain. Within the WSA, 6,425 acres of crucial habitat may support an estimated population of .1 to .5 individuals per square mile, or fewer than five sheep. Table 3-1 lists sensitive wildlife species within the WSA. Desert tortoise may inhabit washes and fotthills in low densities of fewer than 20 per square mile.

PROTECTED PLANTS

Barrel cactus, as listed on Table 3-1, is the only sensitive plant species in the Planet Peak WSA.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-5, Parker-Liberty) follows a 250 kV transmission line along the area's southwestern boundary for approximately 5 miles. This corridor extends 1/2 mile into the WSA.

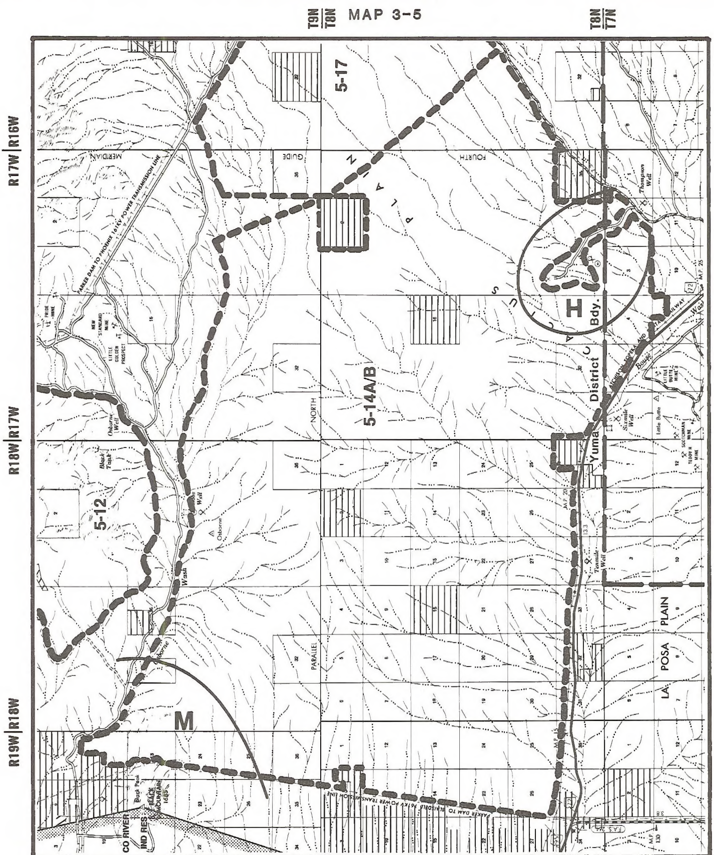
CACTUS PLAIN
(AZ-050-14A/B) — 70,360 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. Cactus Plain WSA is 15 miles southeast of Parker in La Paz County, Arizona. The WSA is bounded by a powerline on the west; a railroad track on the south; the Central Arizona Project canal on the east; and elsewhere by graded roads, state and private lands and public lands lacking wilderness characteristics. One cherrystem road (extending approximately 1.5 miles) penetrates the area from the southeast. Three parcels of state inholdings (totaling 1,740 acres) are also included in the area.

Naturalness. Cactus Plain WSA is essentially in natural condition. The unit incorporates the western two-thirds of the Cactus Plain, an immense open area of stabilized and partially stabilized sand dunes. Vegetative cover over much of the area is primarily creosote and galleta grass in association with bursage and small cacti. The unit's eastern portion includes the densest vegetation — galleta grass, ocotillo, silver cholla and saguaro.

MAP 3-5



MINERAL POTENTIAL

H HIGH POTENTIAL

M MODERATE POTENTIAL

/ BOUNDARY OF MINERAL POTENTIAL

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CACTUS PLAIN 5-14A/B

The existing human imprints are largely unnoticeable. Inventoried imprints include minor surface disturbance from ORV use in the area adjacent to Osborne Wash and along the Parker-Blaisdell powerline, 5.5 miles of fence and associated vehicle way, 12.2 miles of vehicle ways, and several mining prospects along the southern edge. The imprints cover relatively small areas and are effectively screened by the numerous dunes.

Solitude. Outstanding opportunities for solitude exist throughout the interior of the WSA. The undulating stabilized and partially stabilized sand dunes form a network of ridges and hollows that would allow for a relatively high level of visitation while still providing solitude. The WSA's large size, the large number of access points (which facilitate dispersed use), and the dense vegetation in the eastern portion all serve to enhance opportunities for solitude.

The features which enhance solitude within the unit also dissipate the impacts of outside sights and sounds. As a result, features such as highway noise, the railroad track and powerlines have little impact on the unit's solitude opportunities.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The Cactus Plain has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including backpacking, hiking, sightseeing, photography, horseback riding and botanical and wildlife study. The dunes, with their subtle color and intricate vegetative patterns, offer outstanding photographic and sightseeing opportunities. The early morning or late evening hours and the eastern portion of the unit provide the best scenic and photographic opportunities. The plant community and species diversity of the dunes and interdune hollows offer excellent botanical study opportunities. Wildlife observation opportunities are also widely available.

Special Features. The Arizona Natural Heritage Program has identified two unique dunescrub plant communities within the Cactus Plain WSA. *Hilaria rigida—Ephedra trifurca—Croton californicus* dunescrub covers the western portion of the unit and is characterized by widely scattered perennial plants and a low species diversity. Big galleta grass (*Hilaria rigida*) is the dominant species, in association with creosote bush, bursage, and small cacti. *Hilaria rigida*-mixed shrub dunescrub covers the eastern portion of the unit. The relatively dense vegetation is dominated by big galleta grass, which occurs with several codominant woody perennials such as blue palo verde, foothills palo verde, bursage, buckhorn cholla, silver cholla, and ocotillo. These species are normally associated with Arizona Upland and Lower Colorado communities, rather than dune communities.

Sensitive wildlife species that are known to occur in the area include the elf owl and the Mohave Desert fringe-toed lizard. Sensitive plant species that are known to occur in the area include wooly heads, sand flat milkvetch, Death Valley Mormon tea and linearleaf sand spurge.

The Black Peak Sand Dunes, which are included in the area, provide an outstanding example of semi-consolidated sand dune habitats in Arizona.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Carbonate rocks with metallic mineralization has been reported in the northwest part of the WSA (Tosdal 1986). Two barium occurrences are in the southern part of the WSA. Minor production has been reported from the ore body of barite-flourite veins with copper staining in a fractured Tertiary agglomerate and tuff. They are the northernmost extension of outcrops of the Plomosa Mining District.

The Geology, Energy and Minerals (GEM) assessment for the area classifies the extreme southern portion of the WSA, which includes the two barium deposits, as having moderate potential for nonmetallic mineralization. Uranium occurrences outside the WSA, along with geologic characteristics favorable for uranium within the unit, indicate uranium potential within the WSA, but this potential is estimated to be low. The WSA is not favorable for other metallic or nonmetallic minerals (Cruver et al. 1982). U.S. Bureau of Mines studies conducted by Kreidler in 1986 have concluded that the WSA contains no known metallic mineral resources. The study sampled nine unknown locations "in and near" the 109-square-mile WSA. Preliminary evaluations of mineral resource potential by the U.S. Geological Survey have been conducted and the area has tentatively been assigned a high to moderate potential for the occurrence of metallic mineralization (Tosdal 1987).

In December 1986 there were 17 mining claims in the WSA. Barite and flourite, both found in the WSA, are on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Materials*.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Cactus Plain WSA is dispersed but mostly confined to the boundary areas where vehicle access is possible. Present overall annual recreation use is 1,000 visitor days.

Motorized Recreation. Most of the recreation occurring in this area is vehicle based. Off-road vehicle users and other recreationists enter the area from boundary roads and trails on the north and west sides, and may travel on a 1.5-mile cherry-stem road in the southeast, 12.2 miles of vehicle ways in the northwest corner and several short desert washes. The interior is inaccessible to vehicles and little used. Recreation uses include short-term camping, game bird hunting, rockhounding and sightseeing.

About 50% of the annual recreation use is during the annual Parker 400 ORV race. Spectators camp along the northern boundary and enter this unit for various recreation purposes.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts few users engaged in nonmotorized recreation activities. Recreation uses include hiking, sightseeing and some game bird hunting.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The northern area along Osborne Wash is noted for its high cultural resource values. However, there is only moderate probability of sites within the remainder of the unit. It is estimated that there are two potentially eligible *National Register* sites in the area.

NATIVE AMERICAN CONCERNS

Black Peak, located partially within the Cactus Plain unit, is considered an important area in the traditional beliefs of the Colorado River Indian Tribes and the Fort Mohave Tribe.

WILDLIFE VALUES

As listed on Table 3-1, the three sensitive species, Category 2, on the Cactus Plain are the elf owl, Mohave fringe-toed lizard and the flat-tailed horned lizard.

PROTECTED PLANTS

The four sensitive plant species, Category 2, known on the Cactus Plain include wooly heads, sand flat milk vetch, Death Valley Mormon tea and linearleaf sand spurge. Cactus Plain is the only known location in Arizona for Death Valley Mormon tea. Another sensitive species that may occur is night-blooming cereus. This cactus is associated with the Sonoran Desertscrub, or creosote-bursage plant community, on desert flats or in washes, at 400 to 3,500 feet elevation. Table 3-1 lists the sensitive plant species in the Cactus Plain WSA.

LAND USES

A 3,325-acre area in the southwestern corner of the WSA is available for transfer to the State of Arizona through exchange or State Indemnity Selection.

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-6B, Parker-Blaisdell) crosses the western end of the area. The segment of this corridor that crosses the WSA is one to two miles east of the transmission line along the area's western boundary, and extends for approximately 10 miles. Its width varies from 1/2 mile to 1 mile.

SWANSEA

(AZ-050-15A) — 41,690 Acres

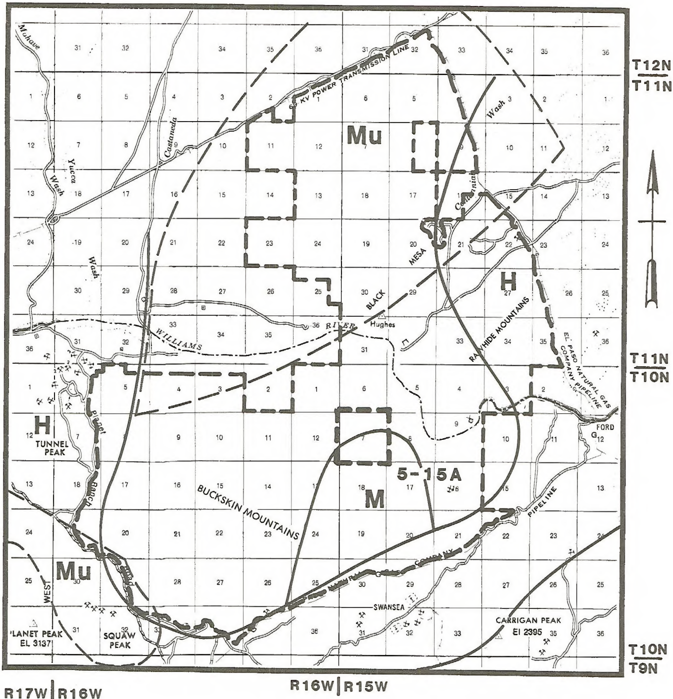
WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The Swansea WSA is 25 miles northeast of Parker in La Paz and Mohave Counties, Arizona. The unit is bounded by maintained roads, state and private lands, and small areas of public land lacking wilderness characteristics. One parcel of private land (covering 640 acres) is included in the area.

Naturalness. The Swansea WSA is predominantly natural with human imprints largely unnoticeable. The unit encompasses a short segment of the Bill Williams River, along with portions of the Buckskin Mountains in the south and the Rawhide Mountains in the north. A complex drainage system dissects the mountains.

Vegetation south of the Bill Williams River is primarily creosote bush in association with staghorn cholla, barrel cactus and palo verde. North of the river, the desert shrub is dominated by creosote bush, in association with palo verde, smoketree, red barrel cactus, brittlebush, catclaw acacia, boxthorn, beavertail cactus and ocotillo. Approximately 530 acres of riparian vegetation grows along the six miles of river within the WSA. Mesquite bosques and saltcedar dominate the riparian zone, with seepwillow, arrowweed, willow, cottonwood, tobacco plant and grasses in association. The impacts of human activity within the area are primarily related to mining activity. The WSA contains mine tunnels and shafts, a retort oven, several prospects and vehicle ways. Topographic screening and the scattering of the human impacts render these artifacts substantially unnoticeable.

MAP 3-6



MINERAL POTENTIAL

M MODERATE POTENTIAL

H HIGH POTENTIAL

\Mu MODERATE POTENTIAL URANIUM

/ BOUNDARY OF MINERAL POTENTIAL

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SWANSEA 5-15A

Solitude. The unit's expansive area and diverse terrain offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. The 6-mile Bill Williams River Canyon provides numerous secluded spots. Elsewhere the adjoining mountain areas, although lacking substantial vegetative screening, still offer outstanding solitude opportunities. The mountain areas are sufficiently fragmented by drainages to effectively dissipate the sights, sounds and presence of other persons inside and outside the WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The unit's diverse terrain provides outstanding opportunities for nonmotorized recreation. The Bill Williams river during periods of water flow provides opportunities for unmotorized float trips using rafts, canoes and kayaks and, at other times, good hiking areas.

Outside the Bill Williams River Canyon, the upland areas to the north and south offer opportunities for day hiking, photography, horseback riding and sightseeing. The varied terrain provides a diverse setting that ranges from rugged mountain areas to broad sand washes and tablelands.

Special Features. The Swansea WSA provides habitat for several sensitive species, including the desert tortoise, Bell's vireo, the elf owl and barrel cactus. Gila monsters also live in the area. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites may include the Swansea pumping station and a retort oven, in addition to at least one identified prehistoric site.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Eight mineral occurrences are within the WSA and numerous others are close to the boundaries (Cruver et al. 1982). Silver, manganese, gold, copper and iron are all present in the area.

On the western and southern boundaries, seven deposits lie at or close to the dislocated surface between metamorphic core and upper plate Precambrian gneiss (Cruver et al. 1982). These mineralizations have produced more than 350,000 tons of ore containing 2 to 3 percent copper and up to 0.4 ounce gold. The southwest portion of the WSA is a part of the greater Swansea Mining District which has produced 13,000 tons of copper, 33,000 ounces of silver and 500 ounces of gold (Keith 1978) from upper-plate marble breccias adjacent to detachment faulting (Spencer and Welty 1986).

Four mineralized deposits are along faults in upper plate Precambrian gneiss and Paleozoic sediments, just outside of the northwest WSA boundary. Production from these deposits has been 66,000 tons of ore that grades from 3 to 10 percent copper and 0.4 to 1 ounce gold (Cruver 1982). The Planet Peak Placers (Santa Maria) lie in the south central part of the WSA. This area has produced 120 ounces of gold.

The Geology, Energy, and Minerals (GEM) assessment for the area identifies a high potential for metallic mineralization in a zone running along the WSA's southern and western boundaries. The GEM assessment also identifies a moderate potential for metallic mineralization in a zone that bisects the WSA near the east center of the unit (Cruver et al. 1982). As of December 1986, there were 90 mining claims in the area. All of the metallic minerals known to be present in the unit are on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Materials*.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the Swansea WSA is dispersed, with some concentration in the tributary washes on the south side of the Bill Williams River. Present overall recreation use within the WSA is 500 VDY.

Motorized Recreation. Most recreation in the area is vehicle-based. Off-road vehicle recreationists, small game hunters, trappers and other recreationists may enter the area from boundary roads over approximately two miles of vehicle ways and several desert washes. Other recreation uses include short-term camping, sightseeing and rockhounding near vehicle access routes. The SCORE Parker 400 ORV race runs along 1¼ miles of the WSA's southern boundary, but contributes no additional recreation use in the unit.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts only a few users engaged in nonmotorized recreation pursuits. Recreation uses include hiking and sightseeing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The area has moderate potential for sites in the interior and high potential for sites adjacent to the Bill Williams River. Mining facilities in the Swansea Mining District are of historic value. It is estimated that there are at least ten potentially eligible *National Register* sites in the area.

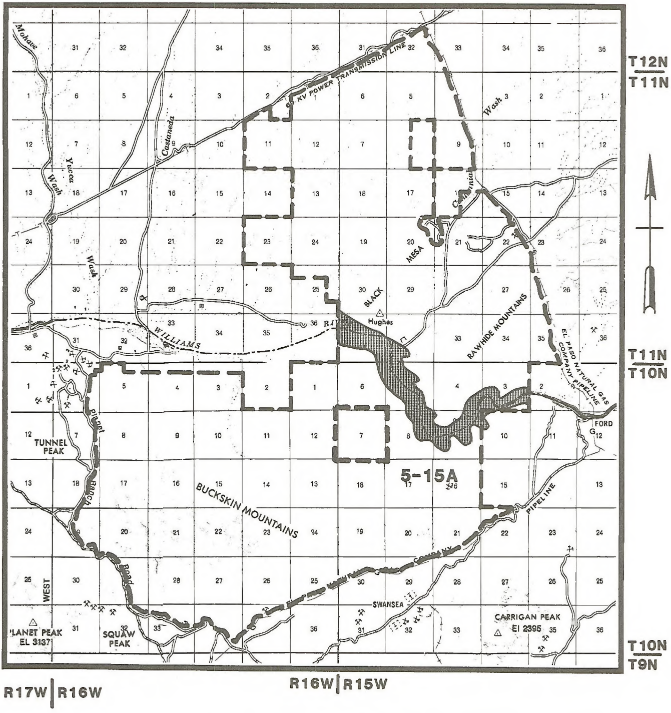
WILDLIFE VALUES

A systematic inventory of wildlife has been performed in the area for desert tortoise and Gila monster, both sensitive species, Category 2. Desert tortoise inhabit washes and foothills in low densities of fewer than 20 individuals per square mile, while Gila monsters live in rocky foothills and canyons near permanent water sources in low densities fewer than 10 individuals per square mile.

Desert bighorn sheep, a state-listed, Group III species, live along rocky slopes in the southeastern portion of the WSA and may be in the upper half of the unit for occasional winter use.

The Bill Williams River bisects the unit, providing 530 acres of prime riparian habitat for numerous species, many of which are state-listed or of special concern in Arizona and/or California. These species include white-faced ibis, Western yellow-billed cuckoo, willow flycatcher, vermilion flycatcher, Arizona Bell's vireo, northern harrier, gila woodpecker, summer tanager, hepatic tanager, Wied's crested flycatcher, gilded flicker, least bittern and cardinal. All referenced sensitive wildlife species are listed on Table 3-1.

MAP 3-6A



PRIORITY WILDLIFE HABITAT

RIPARIAN: 530 ACRES ▨
6 MILES

SOURCE: HRA INVENTORY 6/86

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SWANSEA 5-15A

PROTECTED PLANTS

The unit contains possible habitat for a sensitive species, Category 2. Barrel cactus (*Ferocactus acanthodes* var. *acanthodes*) may grow in the Buckskin Mountains on gravelly or rocky slopes, canyon walls, fans, and wash margins, at 600 to 2,000 or 3,000 feet elevation. No other sensitive plant species (see Table 3-1) are listed for the Swansea WSA.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor follows the gas pipeline along the area's northeastern boundary for approximately seven miles. This corridor extends 1/2 mile into the WSA.

EAST CACTUS PLAIN (AZ-050-17) — 13,735 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The East Cactus Plain WSA is 25 miles southeast of Parker in La Paz County, Arizona. The unit is bounded by graded roads, the Central Arizona Project canal, state lands and public lands lacking wilderness characteristics. The west boundary is the Central Arizona Project canal. The southeast boundary is the old Swansea Road, and the Rankin-Lincoln Road and Midway-Wenden Road. The eastern edge of the WSA is bordered by a 250 kV transmission line. One parcel of state land (covering 640 acres) is included in the area.

Naturalness. The East Cactus Plain WSA generally appears to be natural. This unit is part of the Cactus Plain, and consists of rolling sand dunes alternating with sand-free hollows. Vegetation consists primarily of a dense cover of galletta grass, ocotillo, silver cholla and saguaro.

Human imprints are present only in a few places around the perimeter. These imprints include off-road vehicle tracks along the north and northeast boundaries, an abandoned railroad grade along the southeastern boundary, an abandoned Parker 400 race route at the northern end and a corral and water tank about midway along the northeast boundary. None of these imprints are substantially noticeable.

Solitude. Despite its relatively small size, the unit offers outstanding opportunities for solitude. The well developed dune system with its relatively dense vegetative cover effectively screens out the sights, sounds and presence of other people in the WSA, providing secluded spots throughout much of the WSA. Visitation is also dispersed through the unit by the multiple access points off the perimeter roads. The area can absorb many human visitors simultaneously and still provide outstanding solitude opportunities.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The East Cactus Plain WSA has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Recreationists can find excellent setting opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, nature study, sightseeing and photography. Backpackers also have many opportunities but must carry their own water. Aesthetic experiences are best in the early morning and late evening hours, when the low light angles enhance the dune features and the pinkish colors.

Special Features. The East Cactus Plain WSA contains *Hilaria rigida*-mixed shrub dunescrub, which has been identified as a unique plant community by the Arizona Natural Heritage Program. The relatively dense vegetation is dominated by big galleta grass, which occurs with several codominant woody perennials such as blue palo verde, foothills palo verde, ironwood, buckhorn cholla, silver cholla, white bursage and ocotillo. These species are normally associated with Arizona Upland and Lower Colorado plant communities, rather than dune communities.

Sensitive wildlife species that are known to occur in the area include the elf owl and the Mohave Desert fringe-toed lizard. Sensitive plant species that are known to occur in the area include wooly heads, sand flat milk vetch, Death Valley Mormon tea and linearleaf sand spurge.

The Bouse Sand Dunes, which are included in the area, provide an outstanding example of consolidated sand dune habitats in Arizona.

MINERAL RESOURCES

There are no reported economic minerals in the East Cactus Plain WSA. The Geology, Energy and Minerals (GEM) assessment for the area classified the eastern portion of the WSA as having moderate potential from metallic mineralization because there are two deposits with minor recorded production of copper, silver and gold near the eastern boundary of the WSA. These deposits are within the Midway Mining District. The Swansea Mining District is approximately five miles northeast of the WSA and has produced 13,230 tons of copper, 33,000 ounces of silver, and 500 ounces of gold (Keith et al. 1983).

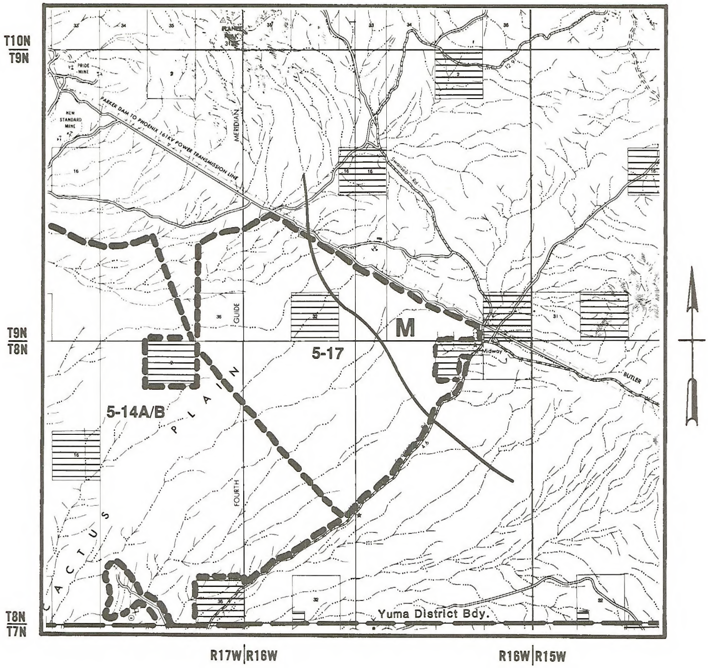
The GEM assessment classified the WSA as having a low potential for uranium mineralization because of nearby uranium occurrences and other favorable geologic characteristics. The favorability for other metallic and nonmetallic minerals is low (Cruver et al. 1982). As of December 1986 there were six mining claims in the unit.

No minerals on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Materials* are reported in the WSA, but copper, silver and gold are present nearby.

RECREATION USES

Recreation use in the East Cactus Plain WSA is dispersed within a narrow band, approximately 1/2 mile in width, adjoining the boundary roads surrounding the unit except for the three miles bordering the central Arizona Project canal. Present recreation use within the WSA is 100 VDY.

MAP 3-7



MINERAL POTENTIAL

M MODERATE POTENTIAL

/ BOUNDARY OF MINERAL POTENTIAL

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EAST CACTUS PLAIN 5-17

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area attracts users engaged in nonmotorized recreation activities, such as hiking, sightseeing and small game hunting.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The WSA has moderate cultural resources potential. It is estimated that there are at least two potentially eligible *National Register* sites in the area.

WILDLIFE

Three sensitive species, Category 2, found on the Cactus Plain (see Table 3-1) include the elf owl, Mohave fringe-toed lizard and the flat-tailed horned lizard. The elf owl is also a California State-listed endangered species.

PROTECTED PLANTS

Five sensitive plant species are found in the area (see Table 3-1), including wooly heads, sand flat milk vetch, Death Valley Mormon tea and linearleaf sand spurge. In addition, suitable habitat exists for the barrel cactus.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-5, Parker-Liberty) follows the 250 kV transmission line along the area's eastern boundary for approximately five miles. This corridor extends one-half mile into the WSA.

BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS NORTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-18) — 415 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition WSA is 29 miles north of Blythe in Riverside County, California. The area is contiguous with a wilderness study area in the California Desert Conservation Area along its western and northern boundaries, the Big Maria Mountains Wilderness Study Area (CDCA-321) (recommended not suitable). Elsewhere, the area is bounded by the Colorado River Indian Reservation, maintained roads and private land.

Naturalness. The Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition WSA appears generally natural, with human influences substantially unnoticeable.

The area embraces a small section of an extensive bajada sloping eastward from the Riverside Mountains to the Colorado River. The slopes are mostly covered by desert pavement and dissected by washes. Vegetation is mostly ironwood and is confined to the washes.

Human imprints in the area are present only in the form of one vehicle way that crosses its southern end, and extends on into the contiguous wilderness study area. The route is not substantially noticeable.

Solitude. This area offers outstanding opportunities for solitude only when considered as an integral part of the contiguous Big Maria Mountains Wilderness Study Area (CDCA-321).

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. This area offers opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation when considered as an integral part of the contiguous Big Maria Mountains WSA (CDCA-321).

Special Features. Foxtail cactus, a sensitive plant species, may be found within the WSA.

RECREATION USES

This WSA is small containing only 415 acres. Accordingly, there is virtually no recreational use made of the area that is dependent upon the WSA as a resource base. Overall recreational use in the WSA is estimated to be 50 VDY. (See Table 2-3.)

Motorized Recreation. A limited amount of ORV riding, motorized access along a 0.2-mile vehicle way crossing the southwest corner of the area, small game hunting and rockhounding occur in the area.

Nonmotorized Recreation. A limited amount of day-hiking and associated activities such as small game hunting occur in the area.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No cultural resources inventory has occurred in this WSA. No known *National Register* quality sites are in this area. However, there is a moderate potential for the presence of one or more *National Register* sites on the terraces above the Colorado River floodplain. Site types in the area would likely be geoglyphs or rockring/cleared area habitation sites.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition WSA contains suitable habitat for four sensitive wildlife species (see Table 3-1). There are no records of their occurrence but they may inhabit the area.

PROTECTED PLANTS

It is likely that two federal candidate plants for threatened or endangered species status, foxtail cactus and barrel cactus (*Ferocactus acanthodes* var. *acanthodes*), may grow in the WSA. The habitat is suitable and both are found in the same mountain range 15 miles to the south.

BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION

(AZ-050-19) — 1,420 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition WSA is 12 miles north of Blythe in Riverside County, California. The area is contiguous with a wilderness study area in the California Desert Conservation Area along its western boundary, the Big Maria Mountains Wilderness Study Area (CDCA-321)(not recommended suitable). Elsewhere it is bounded by maintained roads, the Colorado River Indian Reservation and private lands. One cherry-stem road (extending approximately one mile) penetrates the area from the east.

Naturalness. The Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition WSA generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with human influences substantially unnoticeable.

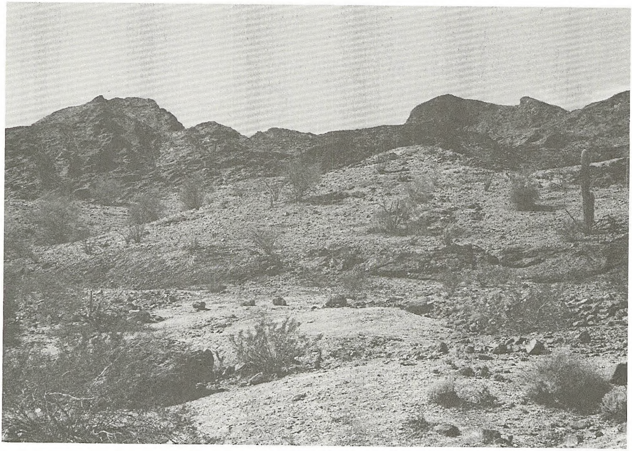
The topography of the area is relatively rugged, with deeply cut washes. Numerous finger ridges and small spires and buttes are scattered throughout the area. The vegetation is varied but is primarily creosote and bursage, with profuse palo verde and ironwood in some washes.

The only evidence of human activity is a vehicle way that extends approximately 1¼ miles across the area and a network of three short vehicle ways that penetrate the area at its eastern boundary. These imprints do not appear to be substantially noticeable, however.

Solitude. This area offers outstanding opportunities for solitude only when considered as an integral part of the contiguous Big Maria Mountains Wilderness Study Area (CDCA-321).

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. This area offers outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only when considered as an integral part of the contiguous Big Maria Mountains Wilderness Study Area (CDCA-321).

Special Features. The WSA includes known habitat for foxtail cactus and barrel cactus, both of which are sensitive plant species. It also includes desert bighorn sheep habitat and a number of *National Register* quality cultural resource sites.



RECREATION USES

This relatively small and rugged WSA is readily accessible from the towns of Blythe, California, and Ehrenberg, Arizona, and nearby recreational developments on the Colorado River Indian Reservation. Overall recreational use in the WSA is 200 VDY. (See Table 2-3.)

Motorized Recreation. Approximately 2.5 miles of vehicle ways provide motorized access into the WSA. Current recreational activities include ORV riding, small game hunting and rockhounding.

Nonmotorized Recreation. Current recreational activities include day-hiking and some associated activities such as small game hunting. In addition, casual exploration of the WSA's cultural resources occurs in small amounts in association with visitation at intaglio sites just north of the WSA.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Limited cultural resource inventory has occurred in this WSA. National Register quality sites known in the WSA include five geoglyph sites, two petroglyph sites and seven habitation sites. Numerous other National Register sites of the same types are expected in uninventoried areas. This WSA is considered to have an extremely high cultural resource value.

NATIVE AMERICAN CONCERNS

The Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition WSA is part of the larger Big Maria Mountains area, all of which is generally considered important in the traditional beliefs of the Mohave and Quechan Indian Tribes. In addition, each of the several sites known in this WSA are individually considered important. Of these sites, the one known as the Black Point geoglyph site, which is partially located within this WSA, is known to be among the most important of all Native American sites within the Yuma District.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition WSA includes approximately 1,420 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat along the southeastern end of the Big Maria Mountains and suitable habitat for five other sensitive wildlife species (see Table 3-1). No population estimate for the bighorn sheep in this area is available.

PROTECTED PLANTS

Foxtail cactus and barrel cactus (*Ferocactus acanthodes* var. *acanthodes*) both grow within the WSA. The habitat within the WSA is suitable for Wiggins' cholla and it is likely to live there. All three of these cacti are federal candidates for threatened or endangered species status.

SOUTH TRIGO MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-23A) — 4,500 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The South Trigo Mountains WSA is in the southern end of the Trigo Mountains, about 20 miles northeast of Yuma in La Paz County, Arizona. Elsewhere the area is bounded by maintained roads, state and private land, and areas of public land lacking wilderness characteristics.

The area's southern boundary is contiguous with Unit 5 of the proposed Imperial National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Area. Elsewhere, the area is bounded by maintained roads, state and private land, and areas of public land lacking wilderness characteristics.

Naturalness. The South Trigo Mountains WSA generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with human influences substantially unnoticeable.

The area's topography is characterized by sawtooth ridges and steep-sided canyons. It is heavily dissected by washes, including portions of the Black Rock Wash. The vegetative cover varies with the topography but is primarily those species characteristic of the Lower Sonoran Life Zone—creosote, palo verde, ironwood, with some saguaro, ocotillo, beavertail, cholla and barrel cactus.

Human imprints in the area are present only in the form of a series of prospects. The prospects are reached by a system of vehicle ways, totaling approximately one mile in length, extending down Black Rock Wash from the Red Cloud Mine road to the north.

Solitude. The area offers outstanding opportunities for solitude only when considered as an integral part of Unit 5 of the proposed Imperial Wilderness.

When considered with the proposed wilderness unit in the Imperial National Wildlife Refuge, the area covers approximately 7,000 acres. While this resulting area is still of relatively small size, the extensive drainages and rugged intervening ridges provide exceptional topographic screening that greatly enhances the user's ability to find a secluded spot. As such, the area is considered to offer outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The area could offer outstanding opportunities for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation only when considered as an integral part of Unit 5 of the proposed Imperial Wilderness.

When considered with the proposed wilderness unit in the Imperial National Wildlife Refuge, the network of drainages in the resulting 7,000-acre area appears particularly attractive for recreation activities involving foot travel. Primitive camping opportunities exist in the area, as some secluded campsites are available. The complex topographic patterns also make the area attractive for related primitive recreation activities such as photography and sightseeing. As such, the area is considered to offer outstanding opportunities for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

Special Features. The WSA includes habitat for the desert bighorn sheep, a sensitive wildlife species.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Most of the mineralization is in the Laramide intrusive rock and volcanic rock contact, and subsequent upperplate mineralization. It is concentrated along normal faults in open space fillings, indicating a structural control for the ore-forming solutions (Garner 1982 in Cruver et al. 1982). Ore minerals are usually argentiferous galena, lead oxides, lead sulfides and carbonates of both lead and zinc (Wilson 1933 and Parker 1966 in Cruver et al. 1982).

The South Trigo Mountains WSA lies within the Silver and Eureka Mining Districts, which between 1880 and 1951 produced more than 52,000 tons of ores containing 1,500 tons of lead, 1.6 million ounces of silver, and 900 ounces of gold (Keith et al. 1983). The Red Cloud Mine, which lies just outside the WSA boundary, produced more than 21,000 tons of silver and lead ore (Keith 1978). The Papago Mine, within the WSA, also produced significant amounts of silver ore. Currently, exploration drilling is being done outside the WSA and minable ore reserves have been delineated. Other occurrences of silver, tungsten, vanadium and lead are present in or near the WSA. On the basis of these occurrences and recorded past production, the Geology, Energy and Minerals (GEM) assessment completed to the area classifies the entire WSA as having high potential for metallic mineralization (Cruver et al. 1982).

As of December 1987, there were 57 mining claims within the unit. Silver, lead and tungsten, all of which are found in the WSA, are on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Materials* (Cruver et al. 1982).

RECREATION USES

The South Trigo Mountains WSA provides easily accessible and attractive outdoor recreation opportunities for people in the Yuma area. Overall recreational use in the area is 350 VDY (250 motorized and 100 nonmotorized). (See Table 2-3.)

Motorized Recreation. Most use is associated with motorized access and occurs in the area's canyons and washes and along its 1.5 miles of vehicle ways. Current activities include ORV riding, small game hunting, rockhounding and recreational mining.

A small amount (50-100 VDY) of rockhounding and recreational mining takes place in the WSA, primarily along the Red Cloud Wash Road.

Nonmotorized Recreation. Approximately 50-100 visitor days of trail riding occur in the area per year.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No cultural resources inventory has occurred in this WSA and no known *National Register* quality sites are in the area. However, there is a moderate potential for one or more *National Register* sites, primarily temporary habitation sites on the terraces adjacent to the many washes in the area. Petroglyph sites may also be near at springs or water holes.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The South Trigo Mountains WSA includes 4,500 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat at the south end of the Trigo Mountains. The estimated bighorn sheep population for this area is 4-6 adults.

This WSA borders Imperial National Wildlife Refuge and is near Picacho State Recreation Area. A total of 32 Harris hawks were released in these two areas in the fall of 1986. They very likely utilize the southern end of the WSA while foraging.

This WSA has suitable habitat for 11 other sensitive wildlife species (see Table 3-1).

WILD BURRO MANAGEMENT

Approximately every other year, some wild burros are rounded up from the South Trigo Mountains WSA by BLM wranglers. This helps to regulate the number of burros in the area to prevent the overuse of plants and environmental degradation. Burro roundups are consistent with the 1980 Cibola-Trigo Herd Management Area Plan (HMAP) and the Yuma District Resource Management Plan.

The wranglers use existing roads, trails, vehicle ways and washes, especially the Red Cloud Wash Road, to reach an appropriate trapping site. Vehicles are used to transport the trap, personnel, horses and burros. A portable trap is set up, often in the bottom of a wash. The trap consists of a metal fence panel corral and two long fences made of burlap, all of which acts as a funnel. A helicopter chases the burros into the trap from areas as much as four to five miles away. Wranglers on horseback chase the burros the last several 100 yards into the corral and, if necessary, rope escapees. The burros are made available to the public through established adoption procedures.

TRIGO MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-23B) — 36,870 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The Trigo Mountains WSA is 25 miles north of Yuma in La Paz County, Arizona.

The area is bounded by the Yuma Proving Ground, Imperial and Cibola National Wildlife Refuges, maintained roads, state and private land, and areas of public land lacking wilderness characteristics. Three cherrystem roads (totaling less than one mile) penetrate the area's southeast corner. Two parcels of state inholdings (totaling

80 acres) and one parcel of private land (covering 20 acres) are included in the area. One small inholding of public land lacking wilderness characteristics is also included in the area.

Contiguous lands within the Imperial National Wildlife Refuge along the area's southern and western boundaries are within Units 3 and 4 of the proposed Imperial Wilderness.

Naturalness. The Trigo Mountains WSA generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with human influences substantially unnoticeable.

The topography over most of the area is characterized by sawtooth ridges and steep-sided canyons. The area is heavily dissected by washes. The vegetative cover varies with the topography, but is primarily those species characteristic of the Lower Sonoran Life Zone. Creosote, palo verde, ironwood, saguaro, ocotillo, beavertail, cholla and barrel cactus grow throughout the area.

Most of this WSA is in essentially natural condition. However, a number of human imprints associated with past mining activity may be found in the area. Imprints of past mining include isolated prospects in the northeast quarter of the WSA, four concentrated areas of past mining near the area's eastern boundary, prospects in the southeast corner of the WSA, an area of about 80 acres in the center of the WSA containing numerous shafts, tunnels and graded access ways, and a ten-acre area in the center of the WSA containing tunnels and shafts. These imprints are effectively dispersed and screened by the area's complex terrain.

Vehicle ways for access to the old mining sites total approximately 20-25 miles in length. The routes are mainly located in washes (Clip Wash, Lopez Wash, Hart Mine Wash). Overall, these vehicle ways do not noticeably detract from the WSA's naturalness because of revegetation, where natural conditions are restored quickly and naturally, and the screening provided by the WSA's complex topography.

Solitude. Outstanding opportunities for solitude are available throughout the area. The complex topographic and vegetational patterns of its vast interior make it possible for a person to readily avoid the sights, sounds and evidence of other people almost anywhere within its boundaries.

The extensive drainages and rugged intervening ridges of the area's interior provide exceptional topographic screening and greatly enhance the user's ability to find a secluded campsite.

Significant vegetative screening is generally limited to the lower reaches of the major washes. Although these areas comprise only about 15% of the total acreage, they are along the western and southern edges of the area away from the mountainous core. Consequently, they virtually extend the area in which the user may find a secluded spot to the boundaries.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The area also offers outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation.

The interior drainages appear particularly attractive for recreation activities involving foot or horseback travel. Hiking opportunities are excellent, with endless combinations of trips possible. Horseback travel is feasible in many of the larger drainages as well. Primitive camping opportunities exist throughout the area, as secluded spots for campsites are readily available.

The complex topographic and vegetation patterns that characterize much of the area's interior also make the area attractive for related primitive recreation activities, such as photography, nature study and sightseeing.

Special Features. The WSA includes habitat for the desert bighorn sheep, a sensitive wildlife species.

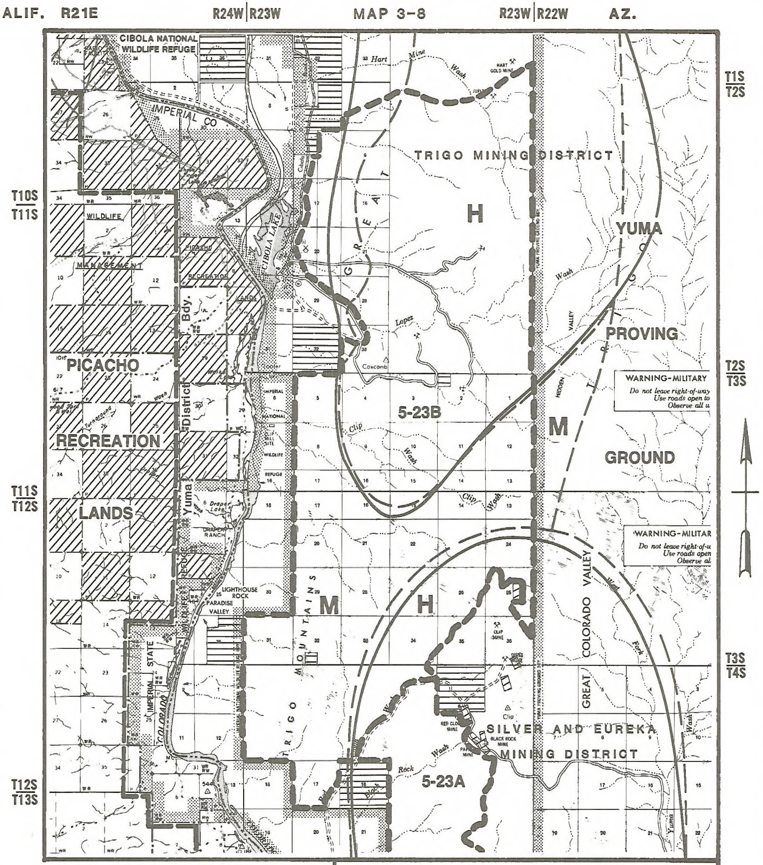
MINERAL RESOURCES

The Trigo Mountains WSA encompasses portions of the Trigo and Silver Mining Districts. The Trigo District produced an estimated 35,000 tons of manganese ores during the 1950s. Approximately 40 percent of these ores came from mines within the WSA. In the northern portion of this district and WSA, goldbearing veins occur in Mesozoic schist which is intruded by granite porphyry. Two of these quartz veins are in the northern part of the WSA, but neither has any reported production. The Trigo gold placers, with a reported production of less than 10,000 ounces of gold, overlap the northern part of the WSA. The southern part of the district is dominated by manganese mineralization which is locally enriched in lead, zinc and chromium (Cruver et al. 1982). The occurrence of gold suggests that gold mineralization may underlie volcanics at greater depth.

The Silver Mining District, in the southern portion of the WSA, produced approximately 103,000 tons of copper, silver and lead ores from 1880 to 1951 (Keith 1978). In addition to silver and lead, gold, zinc, copper, vanadium, barium, strontium, manganese, tungsten, flourite, molybdenum, bismuth, chromium and beryllium are locally present in anomalous concentrations. It is possible that sulfide-rich assemblages may be present at depth. Four occurrences are present within the WSA with beryllium, silver and barium, but there is no recorded production (Cruver et al. 1982). The mines that produced these ores are located near the WSA's southeastern boundary.

Based on recorded past production and reported metallic mineral occurrences, the Geology, Energy and Minerals (GEM) assessment on the area classifies the north half and the southeast portion of the WSA as having high potential for metallic mineralization. Two small areas of the WSA are considered to have moderate potential for nonmetallic mineralization, based on reported occurrences of bentonite and dumortierite (Cruver et al. 1982).

In November 1986, there were 50 mining claims in the WSA. Minerals listed on the National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Materials that are found in the WSA are manganese, gold, silver, lead and chromium.



MINERAL POTENTIAL

M MODERATE POTENTIAL

H HIGH POTENTIAL

BOUNDARY OF POTENTIAL MINERAL RESOURCES

MINING DISTRICT BOUNDARY

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TRIGO MOUNTAINS 5-23B

RECREATION USES

The Trigo Mountains WSA is easily accessible from Blythe, California, to the north and Yuma, Arizona, from the south. Overall recreational use in this WSA is 800 VDY. (See Table 2-3.)

Motorized Recreation. While the WSA provides excellent opportunities for nonmotorized recreation, much of the present use is dependent upon motorized access and includes ORV driving, small game hunting, sightseeing, rockhounding and recreational mining.

Most, if not all, of the ORV use takes place on the 20-25 miles of unmaintained vehicle ways which access abandoned mining sites in the WSA. The rockhounding and recreational mining activities are concentrated near the Red Cloud Wash Road, Clip Wash and other access points. Only a small amount of small game hunting (50-100 VDY) occurs in the area.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The WSA is used for horseback riding on both day trips and overnight trail rides by several riding clubs from Blythe and other communities in the southwest desert region. A number of large trail riding groups have used the WSA north-to-south (Cibola Refuge to Martinez Lake) on winter season overnight trips in recent years. Water and feed for horses are usually transported by vehicle along Red Cloud Wash Road and north via a vehicle way to an overnight camp in the eastern end of Clip Wash for these overnight treks. Approximately 400 visitor days of horseback riding occur in the WSA annually.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No cultural resources inventory has been conducted and no known *National Register* quality sites are in the WSA. However, there is a moderate potential for one or more *National Register* sites, primarily temporary habitation sites on the terraces adjacent to the many washes in the area. Petroglyph sites may also be near springs or water holes.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The Trigo Mountains WSA includes 36,870 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat along the west side of the Trigo Mountains. The estimated bighorn sheep population for this area is 20-30 adults.

This WSA is a relatively large remote area which may represent one of the few areas suitable for a resident mountain lion population. Records of lion occurrence within the Trigo Mountains exist but they are sporadic and do not confirm the existence of a permanent population.

This area contains suitable habitat for 12 other sensitive wildlife species (see Table 3-1).

WILD BURRO MANAGEMENT

Procedures for rounding up wild burros in this area are the same as those described for rounding up wild burros in the South Trigo Mountains WSA.

PROTECTED PLANTS

Two federal candidate plants for threatened or endangered species status, foxtail cactus and night-blooming cereus, may grow in the WSA. There are records of night-blooming cereus less than five miles to the north in the same habitat type.

KOFA UNIT 3 SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-31) — 3,400 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition WSA is 21 miles southeast of Quartzsite in La Paz County, Arizona.

The area's southern boundary is contiguous with Unit 3 of the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Proposal. Elsewhere the area is bounded by areas of public land lacking wilderness characteristics.

Naturalness. The Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with human influences substantially unnoticeable.

The topography of the area includes portions of the Castle Dome Mountains and west-sloping bajadas. The vegetation is generally confined to washes and consists primarily of ironwood, palo verde, and saguaro.

Human imprints are present in the area only in the form of two short stretches of vehicle way and a water catchment. Although visible from the immediate area, the catchment and vehicle ways have minimal effect on the apparent naturalness of the area.

Solitude. The area offers opportunities for solitude only if it is considered as an integral part of Unit 3 of the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Proposal.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The area offers opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only if it is considered as an integral part of Unit 3 of the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Proposal.

Special Features. The desert tortoise, a sensitive wildlife species, is probably found in the area. The WSA also includes suitable habitat for the night-blooming cereus and Wiggins' cholla, both of which are sensitive plant species.

RECREATION USES

Most of the use made of this narrow WSA is tied closely to recreational opportunities provided by the adjoining Kofa National Wildlife Refuge.

Current recreational activities in this small WSA include four-wheel touring, small game and deer hunting, camping, recreational mining in the washes, and a moderate amount of rockhounding. Virtually all of this use is associated with motorized access and is on or near two vehicle ways totaling two miles in length. The ways and washes on this WSA are also used as access or take-off points into the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge. Overall recreational use in the area is 300 VDY (see Table 2-3).

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No cultural resources inventory has been conducted and no known *National Register* quality sites are in the WSA. However, there is a moderate potential for one or more *National Register* sites, primarily temporary habitation sites at the base of the mountains.

WILDLIFE VALUES

Kofa Unit 3, Southern Addition WSA includes 3,400 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat along the western slope of the Castle Dome Mountains. The estimated bighorn sheep population for this area is four adults.

Desert tortoises are very likely to inhabit the foothills and washes in the area although densities are low—fewer than 20 individuals per square mile. This WSA has suitable habitat for six other sensitive species of wildlife (see Table 3-1).

PROTECTED PLANTS

Two federal candidate plants for threatened or endangered or species status, night-blooming cereus and Wiggins' cholla, may be found within the WSA.

KOFA UNIT 4 NORTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-33) — 1,900 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

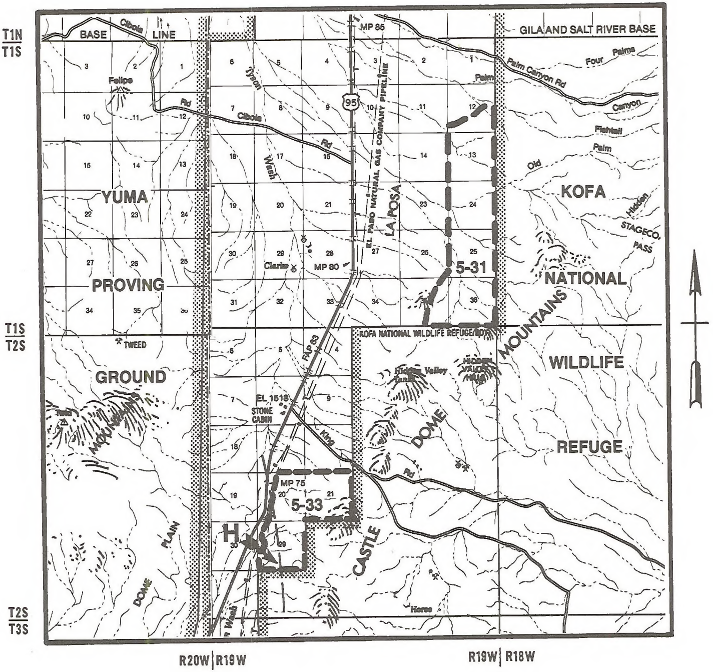
Location and Boundaries. The Kofa Unit 4, Northern Addition WSA is 30 miles south of Quartzsite in La Paz County, Arizona.

The area is contiguous with Unit 4 of the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Proposal along its southern boundary. Elsewhere the area is bounded by portions of the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge not under wilderness proposal, state lands, areas of public land lacking wilderness characteristics, and maintained roads.

Naturalness. The Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with human influences substantially unnoticeable.

The area includes a portion of the northwestern end of the Castle Dome Mountains, as well as a small part of an

MAP 3-9



MINERAL POTENTIAL

H HIGH POTENTIAL

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KOFA UNIT 4
NORTHERN ADDITION 5-33

adjacent west-sloping bajada. The topography is generally steep and rugged, with an elevation gain of 650 feet from its northern to its southern boundaries. The vegetative cover is sparse throughout the mountainous portion, with creosote bush, cholla and galleta grass predominating. The bajada and minor washes within the area support small numbers of ocotillo, saguaro and palo verde, as well as creosote and mixed desert shrubs.

Human imprints in the area are limited to a half-mile long vehicle way, which is not substantially noticeable.

Solitude. By itself, the area lacks outstanding opportunities for solitude because of its small size. However, as an integral part of the contiguous wilderness proposal, the WSA is considered to have outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. By itself, the area lacks outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation due to its small size. However, as an integral part of the contiguous wilderness proposal, the WSA is considered to have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Special Features. The desert tortoise, a sensitive wildlife species, is probably found in the area. The WSA also includes suitable habitat for the night-blooming cereus and Wiggins' cholla, both of which are sensitive plant species.

MINERAL RESOURCES

There are no known metallic mineral deposits in the WSA. Approximately one mile to the south is a zeolite deposit that has been prospected and contains known reserves that extend into the southern portion of the study area. Geology, Energy and Minerals (GEM) assessment for the area classifies the WSA an not favorable mineral resources and notes very little is known of the local geology (Cruver et. al. 1982). The influence of zeolite reserves changes the potential for industrial minerals to high, based upon direct evidence. As of December 1986, there were 5 pre-FLPMA and 15 post-FLPMA mining claims located in WSA.

RECREATION USES

Most of the use made of this small but rugged WSA is associated with vehicular travel and is tied closely to recreational opportunities provided in the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge. Motorized access is facilitated by a one-half-mile vehicle way within the WSA, a right-of-way access road, a vehicle way which form the area's western and northern boundaries and the WSA's closeness to U.S. Highway 95. The area's ways and washes are used as access or take-off points into the adjacent Kofa Refuge.

Current activities include four-wheel touring and sightseeing, small game and deer hunting, and a moderate amount of rockhounding. Overall recreational use in the area is 150 VDY (see Table 2-3).

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No known *National Register* quality sites are in this area. However, there is a high potential for the presence of one or more *National Register* sites, primarily at springs or water holes in the canyons and along Indian Wash. These would likely be either petroglyph or rockring/cleared area habitation sites.

WILDLIFE VALUES

Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition WSA includes 1,900 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat along the northwestern end of the Castle Dome Mountains. The estimated bighorn sheep population for this area is two adults.

Desert tortoises are very likely to inhabit the foothills and washes in the area, although densities are low—fewer than 20 individuals per square mile. This WSA has suitable habitat for six other sensitive species of wildlife (see Table 3-1).

PROTECTED PLANTS

Two federal candidate plants for threatened or endangered species status, night-blooming cereus and Wiggins' cholla, may be found within the WSA.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-6B, Parker-Blaisdell) follows a gas pipeline along the area's western boundary for approximately two miles. This corridor extends one-half mile into the WSA.

KOFA UNIT 4 SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-34) — 11,220 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition WSA is 40 miles northeast of Yuma in Yuma County, Arizona.

The WSA is contiguous with proposed wilderness in the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge along its eastern boundary. Elsewhere the area is bounded by portions of the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge not under wilderness proposal, the Yuma Proving Ground and a transmission line maintenance road.

Naturalness. The Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with human influences substantially unnoticeable.

The area includes a small portion of an extensive bajada, known as the Castle Dome Plain, that slopes southwesterly from the Castle Dome Mountains. It is generally flat and open, with an elevation gain of only 420 feet from its southwestern to northeastern corners. It is dissected by numerous southwest-flowing washes. Vegetation is characteristically sparse, primarily creosote bush, ocotillo, saguaro and mixed desert shrubs. Palo verde and ironwood grow in the majority of the washes.

The only human imprints in the area are a vehicle way that traverses the northern end of the area for two miles and another vehicle way that follows the boundary between the area and the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge for five miles. Neither of these imprints is substantially noticeable.

Solitude. Due to its configuration and an almost total lack of topographic and vegetative screening, the area does not by itself offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. However, the area could offer outstanding opportunities for solitude as an integral part of Unit 4 of the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Proposal.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The area does not possess any single outstanding primitive recreational opportunity nor the diversity of opportunities necessary to be considered outstanding. However, the area could offer outstanding opportunities for a primitive and unconfined recreation as an integral part of Unit 4 of the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Proposal.

Special Features. The WSA includes habitat for desert bighorn sheep and the desert tortoise, both of which are sensitive wildlife species. It also includes suitable habitat for the night-blooming cereus and Wiggins' cholla, both of which are sensitive plant species.

RECREATION USES

This WSA has not attracted much recreational use. Most of its use is incidental to recreational use made of the adjacent Kofa National Wildlife Refuge.

Current recreational activities in this WSA include four-wheel touring, small game and deer hunting, and a limited amount of rockhounding. This use is almost entirely vehicle-based on the seven miles of two vehicle ways that access the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge. In addition, the numerous washes in the area are used by hunters for access and camping during deer season. Overall recreational use is 150 VDY.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No cultural resources inventory has been conducted and no known National Register quality sites are in the area. However, there is a moderate potential for one or more National Register sites, primarily temporary habitation sites on the terraces adjacent to the many washes in the area. Petroglyph sites may also be present at springs or water holes.

WILDLIFE VALUES

Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition WSA includes 11,220 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat. The estimated bighorn sheep population for this area is four adults.

Desert tortoises are very likely to inhabit the foothills and washes in the area although densities are fewer than 20 individuals per square mile. Gila monsters are also very likely to live in the area, although no population estimates are available.

This WSA contains suitable habitat for five other sensitive wildlife species (see Table 3-1).

PROTECTED PLANTS

Two federal candidate plants for threatened or endangered species status, night-blooming cereus and Wiggins' cholla, may be found within the WSA.

LITTLE PICACHO PEAK ADDITION (AZ-050-35) — 2,915 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The Little Picacho Peak Addition WSA is 20 miles north of Yuma, Arizona, on the southeast edge of the Chocolate Mountains in Imperial County, California.

The area is contiguous with a wilderness study area in the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA-356) (recommended not suitable) along its western and southern boundaries. Elsewhere the area is bounded by a maintained road and the Imperial National Wildlife Refuge.

Naturalness. The Little Picacho Peak Addition appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with human influences substantially unnoticeable.

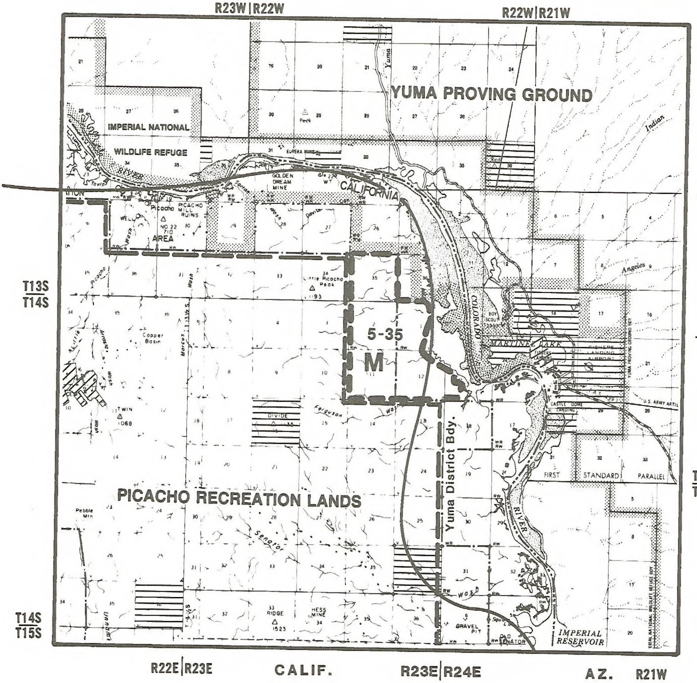
The area includes a series of rugged peaks breaking east toward the Colorado River. Several deep washes dissect the east-facing slopes. The peaks support a thin cover of creosote, mixed desert shrub, annual grasses and galleta grass. Annual grasses dominate the slopes, while palo verde and ironwood grow in the washes.

No noticeable human imprints are found within the area.

Solitude. This area offers outstanding opportunities for solitude only when considered as an integral part of the contiguous Little Picacho Peak Wilderness Study Area (CDCA-356).

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. This area offers outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only when considered as an integral part of the contiguous Little Picacho Peak Wilderness Study Area (CDCA-356).

MAP 3-10



MINERAL POTENTIAL

M MODERATE POTENTIAL

/ BOUNDARY OF MINERAL POTENTIAL

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LITTLE PICACHO PEAK ADDITION 5-35

Special Features. The WSA includes habitat for desert bighorn sheep, a sensitive wildlife species, and foxtail cactus, a sensitive plant species.

MINERAL RESOURCES

There are no known mineral deposits within the subject area. However, the surrounding area to the west is an historical and currently active mining district from which gold, silver and lead have been produced. An active gold mine, Picacho Mine, is approximately six miles to the west, and copper minerals in a similar geologic environment (Morton 1962) have been found in the Copper Basin, which is about four miles from the unit's western boundary. Metallic mineral occurrences also include two lead-silver prospects in Picacho State Park to the north. In the Chocolate Mountains numerous radioactive anomalies have been reported (Marcus 1980).

As of December 1986, there were 24 mining claims located by Goldfields Mining Corporation within the west half of the WSA. Seventy acres have been withdrawn from mineral entry by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. None of the minerals found on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Strategic and Critical Materials* are reported in the WSA, but silver, gold, lead and copper, all of which appear on the Inventory, are present nearby. There is moderate favorability for metallic minerals within the WSA, based on indirect evidence.

RECREATION USES

Overall recreational use in this WSA is 200 VDY (10 motorized and 190 nonmotorized; see Table 2-3).

Motorized Recreation. The area's rugged terrain prevents vehicular entry throughout most of the WSA. A small amount of vehicle-based use occurs in three washes totalling one mile in length along the WSA's eastern boundary, but this is primarily spillover from use on the Ferguson Lake Road and from lands along Ferguson Lake.

Nonmotorized Recreation. Nonmotorized recreational activities in this small but topographically rugged WSA include limited amounts of rockhounding, rock climbing, small game hunting, day hiking, photography and sightseeing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No cultural resources inventory has been conducted and no known *National Register* quality sites are in the WSA. However, there is a moderate potential for one or more National Register sites, primarily temporary habitation sites on the terraces adjacent to the many washes in the area. Petroglyph sites may also be present at springs or water holes.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The Little Picacho Peak Addition WSA includes 2,915 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat along the southeast edge of the Chocolate Mountains. No population estimate is available for the bighorn sheep in this area.

Because this WSA borders Ferguson Lake and Imperial National Wildlife Refuge, it is likely to be used as a hunting ground by nine sensitive species of raptors (see Table 3-1).

PROTECTED PLANTS

Foxtail cactus, a federal candidate for threatened or endangered species status, may be found on the rocky slopes within the WSA, although there are no records.

MUGGINS MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-53A) — 14,455 Acres

WILDERNESS VALUES

Location and Boundaries. The Muggins Mountains WSA is on the south side of the Muggins Mountains, a relatively small desert range 25 miles east of Yuma in Yuma County, Arizona. The area is bounded by the Yuma Proving Ground, private land and areas of public land lacking wilderness characteristics.

Naturalness. The Muggins Mountains WSA has been affected primarily by the forces of nature with human influences substantially unnoticeable.

The area's western end includes a cluster of rugged peaks, of which Muggins Peak (elevation 1,424 feet), Klothos Temple (elevation 1,666 feet) and Long Mountain are most prominent. Twin Tanks Wash, Long Mountain Wash, Morgan Wash and other deeply-cut drainages dissect the peaks. Most of the remainder of the area consists of rolling hills dissected by a complex system of shallow drainages.

The vegetative cover is sparse over most of the area and is primarily creosote and bursage in association with brittlebush, ocotillo and saguaro. Palo verde, ironwood and smoketree grow in the washes.

Human imprints in the area are present only in the form of a few vehicle ways.

For the most part, the presence of the vehicle ways within the area is effectively scattered by the complex terrain. Moreover, many of the routes are confined to washes and exhibit little in the way of surface disturbance.

Solitude. The rugged peaks and deep drainages that dominate the area's western end readily screen out the sights, sounds and presence of other people. The peaks and interior ridges, which rise dramatically on all sides, are suitably isolated from the surrounding areas. The drainages, which generally flow in a southwesterly direction from the peaks, afford countless pockets of seclusion along their winding courses. This portion of the area covers

almost 10,000 acres, and offers outstanding opportunities for solitude in itself.

The rolling hills that characterize much of the remainder of the area, while lacking the topographic complexity of the area's western end, are capable of screening out the sights, sounds and presence of other people. Within the extensive labyrinth of drainages that dissect the hills, numerous secluded spots may be found.

Agricultural developments in Mohawk Valley to the southeast and Dome Valley to the southwest may be seen and heard, but their overall effect is not considered substantial. They appear to be conspicuous only on exposed areas along the southeastern and southwestern boundaries.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The area has outstanding opportunities for a number of primitive and unconfined recreation activities, including rock climbing, hiking and backpacking, camping, sightseeing and photography.

The area's western end, with its rugged peaks and deep drainages, holds outstanding opportunities for all of these activities. Muggins Peak, Klothos Temple, and Long Mountain all have outstanding potential for rock climbing activities, although loose rock presents some safety hazards. The peaks, foothills and drainages form an extensive area of diverse terrain that readily ensures a wide variety of opportunities for hiking and backpacking. Opportunities for primitive camping are numerous and varied, as secluded campsites may readily be found among the interior peaks and within many of the drainages. Finally, the peaks and drainages are highly scenic and offer outstanding opportunities for sightseeing, photography and other related supplemental activities.

The rolling hills that characterize most of the remainder of the area offer outstanding opportunities for hiking, backpacking and primitive camping as well. Spread over an extensive area, the hills and the labyrinth of shallow drainages that dissect them offer enough topographic diversity to ensure outstanding opportunities for foot travel. In addition, a variety of secluded campsites may be found in the drainages.

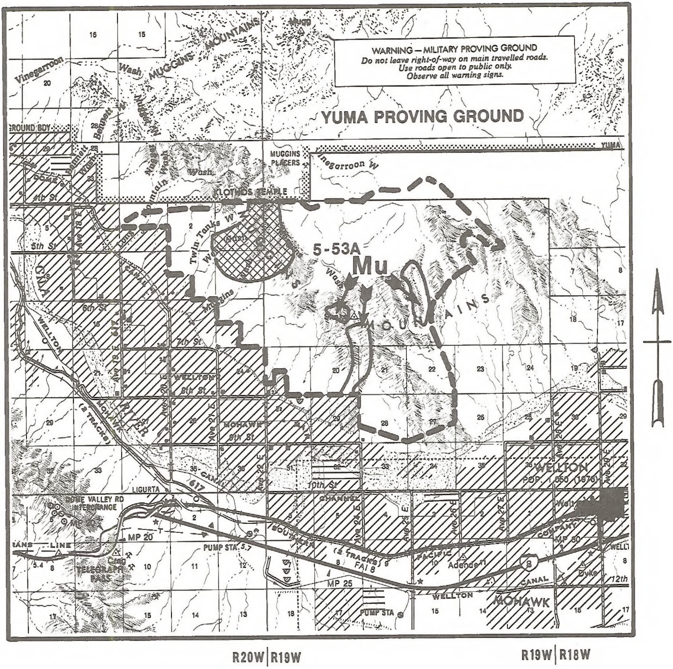
Special Features. The WSA includes habitat for the desert tortoise, a sensitive wildlife species. It also includes habitat for Wiggins' cholla and barrel cactus, both of which are sensitive plant species.

The dominant peaks at the western end of the Muggins Mountains, with their rugged landform and colorful geologic strata, are considered exceptionally scenic for the region. Klothos Temple, in particular, stands out among these peaks as a scenic attraction.

MINERAL RESOURCES

The Muggins Mountains WSA is in the Muggins Mountains Mining District, which produced an estimated 1,000 ounces of gold and a small amount of silver from the mid 1860s to 1900 (Keith 1978). Most of this mining activity was placer deposits within a bajada breccia. Geologic and geo-

MAP 3-11



MINERAL POTENTIAL

Mu MODERATE POTENTIAL URANIUM

▨ AREA OF REPORTED MINOR GOLD PLACERS

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MUGGINS MOUNTAINS 5-53A

chemical data reported (Smith et al. 1984) shows a low potential for metallic minerals.

Exploration activity within the WSA has involved gold and uranium. Minor gold placers occur west and northwest of Muggins Peak. The Red Knob uranium prospect is within the WSA near the eastern boundary. The mineralization at this prospect is weeksite, a secondary mineral association with other oxidized uranium minerals (Wood 1987).

A U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) study of the area, prepared for BLM, concluded that these deposits are probably too small to be considered as a resource. The USGS study classified the entire WSA as having low potential for metallic mineralization. Uranium and thorium also occur in the WSA and, based on these occurrences and other favorable geologic data, the USGS classifies three small areas in the eastern portion of the WSA as having moderate potential for these resources (Smith et al 1984). Gold and thorium are listed on the *National Defense Stockpile Inventory of Stragetic and Critical Materials.*

As of December 1986, there were nine claims in the WSA.

RECREATION USES

The Muggins Mountains WSA provides attractive recreational opportunities within one-hour's driving time of Yuma, Arizona. Overall recreational use of the WSA is 600 VDY (430 visitor days motorized and 170 visitor days nonmotorized; see Table 2-3).

Motorized Recreation. Most of the present recreational activity in the WSA is associated with motorized access and is concentrated in the Muggins, Morgan and other smaller washes, as well as along the several vehicle ways that access the area. Current recreational activities include four-wheel touring and sightseeing along the washes and ways, recreational mining, small game hunting and trapping, rockhounding, and motorized access-related camping.

Nonmotorized Recreation. The area's rugged peaks and deep drainages provide an excellent resource base for such nonmotorized recreational activities as rock climbing, day-hiking, backpacking, nature study and photography. Current recreational activities include day-hiking and a limited amount of rock climbing on Muggins Peak, Klothos Temple and Long Mountain.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No cultural resources inventory has been conducted and no known *National Register* quality sites are in the WSA. However, there is a moderate potential for one or more *National Register* sites, primarily temporary habitation sites at the base of the mountains and on terraces along the washes and canyons in the area. Numerous petroglyph sites of *National Register* quality are just outside the WSA on the southernmost edge. Some petroglyphs may also be located at springs or water holes in the mountain areas.

WILDLIFE VALUES

The Muggins Mountains WSA includes 14,455 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat. The estimated bighorn sheep population for the area is two adults.

Desert tortoises and Gila monsters are both likely to inhabit the foothills and washes of the WSA. Densities of both species are probably quite low. Suitable habitat exists for three additional sensitive wildlife species (see Table 3-1).

PROTECTED PLANTS

Wiggins' cholla and barrel cactus (*Ferocactus acanthodes* var. *acanthodes*), both federal candidates for threatened or endangered species status, may grow in the WSA.

LAND USES

A designated BLM utility corridor (UC-9, Interconnection) follows a 500 kV transmission line along the area's northern boundary for approximately nine miles. This corridor extends one-half mile into the WSA.

Chapter 4

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

CHAPTER 4

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 4 analyzes the environmental consequences of each alternative for each WSA. The analyses will be commensurate with the degree of expected impact. BLM determined that no measurable impacts would result to livestock operations, wild burros, air quality, water quality, nonfederal lands, soils, social elements, military overflights and fire management. These components are, therefore, not discussed in this chapter (see Chapter 1 — Issues Considered But Not Analyzed). Cultural resources, Native American values and protected plants were considered issues in Chapter 1 and carried through the impact analysis. The conclusion drawn after the analysis was that these resources would neither be beneficially nor adversely impacted by the management actions described in Chapter 2.

BASIC ASSUMPTIONS

To provide a standard framework for impact analysis and comparison among the alternatives, the following assumptions were used.

1. **Short-term impacts** are considered to be those which would occur over a five-year period after designation, while long-term impacts are those occurring more than five years after designation. Unless otherwise stated all impacts are considered long-term.

2. **BLM will have** the funding and work force to implement the chosen alternatives.

3. **Section 603 WSAs** will be managed under BLM's *Interim Management Policy* (IMP) until either designated as wilderness or released by Congress. Section 202 WSAs not recommended for wilderness would be released by the State Director and not managed under the IMP upon release of the F.E.I.S.

4. **If an area is** designated as wilderness, the *Wilderness Management Policy* and related wilderness management regulations will be used as guides for permissible activities until a Wilderness Management Plan is prepared for a designated area. The WSA-specific Wilderness Management Plan will identify management actions that will be authorized within each designated area.

5. **BLM cannot block** access to nonfederal mineral or privately owned lands within a designated wilderness area.

6. **Mines developed** on federal mineral estate within designated wilderness areas would be on claims that have predesignation discoveries (a discovery of a valuable locatable mineral deposit prior to wilderness designation) that have been proven valid.

7. **Effective on** the date of designation, any area designated as wilderness will be withdrawn from mineral leasing and mining claim staking under the mining laws. This provision is subject to valid existing rights.

8. **New or upgraded** roads developed for access to exploration programs and mineral developments in WSAs or partial areas not designated wilderness will remain open to motorized use.

9. **The visual** and audible impacts of mining would extend outside the areas of actual surface disturbance, affecting WSA lands next to access routes and around the mines.

10. **Long-term visual** impacts to naturalness from mining developments within the WSAs would remain, even after mining has ceased and mine site reclamation has been completed. Rehabilitative processes (both natural and by machine) are slow in these arid areas, which are generally characterized by precipitous slopes and canyons, shallow soils and rocky terrain. Road construction with full bench cuts would create long-term visual impacts in mountainous areas.

11. **Range facilities** will be maintained where needed to facilitate grazing and multiple-use management. New rangeland developments that benefit multiple use management may be allowed when site-specific environmental assessments show that wilderness resources would not be impaired. The minimum tool requirement for both maintenance and development could cause some increased costs both for the operator and BLM.

12. **Livestock grazing** will be maintained at present levels unless adjusted for reasons prescribed to achieve the multiple-use resource objectives for the rangeland.

13. **The livestock operator** would experience some minor increased commitment of labor and costs associated with using horses instead of motorized vehicles to place salt within designated wilderness areas, check on livestock and range improvements, and complete some maintenance or developments. Prohibitions against the use of motorized vehicles would also affect BLM's administration within wilderness areas.

14. **Traditional forms** of wildlife habitat improvement projects (e.g., water catchments) used in the Yuma District would continue to be installed in designated areas if, through an environmental assessment, it is determined that the projects comply with the intent of wilderness legislation.

15. **Mining activity** and rights-of-way construction would impair a visitor's perception of naturalness on a larger area than is actually disturbed. This larger area is generally the total area within viewing distance of the particular impairing activity. Thus a two-acre mine might be viewed from the surrounding hills, thereby impairing a visitor's perception of naturalness across a much larger area.

16. **As part of** the Mining Plan of Operation procedure described in 43 CFR 3800, environmental impacts from proposed mining plans of operation within the WSAs would be assessed in accordance with NEPA using an EA or EIS process prior to approval by BLM. Mitigating measures and stipulations would be developed in those documents to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation of resources.

17. **Impacts to wilderness** values are dependent upon (1) the size of the WSA, (2) the topography of the area where the impact occurs, (3) the location of the impact in the WSA and (4) the magnitude, duration and frequency of the impact.

18. **Unless otherwise** noted, wilderness designation would not adversely affect existing and projected motorized recreation use within WSAs because (in most cases) this use would be displaced to vehicle ways on similar terrain immediately outside of the designated areas. Moreover, because of the overall low levels of use that are existing and projected, this displacement would not noticeably affect the quality of motorized recreation use in the general area.

19. **Opportunities** for nonmotorized recreation use would be enhanced by the exclusion of motorized recreation use from an area, as encounters between the two user groups (which are considered detrimental to the experience of nonmotorized recreation users) would be avoided.

20. **Surface disturbances** from mining developments would adversely affect crucial bighorn sheep habitat, regardless of how these disturbances are mitigated. Under the *Yuma District RMP*, these developments would normally be permitted in bighorn sheep habitat.

21. **At present** and projected use levels, motorized recreation use (as authorized by the Yuma District RMP) would not adversely affect crucial bighorn sheep habitat.

22. **Impacts to sensitive** plant and animal species under wilderness designation or nondesignation cannot be assessed in this EIS, because locations of critical habitat and populations are not known at this time. Site-specific impacts to these species from projects that are proposed in the WSAs would be assessed on a case-by-case basis through an EA or EIS process, and mitigating measures would be developed in these processes to avoid or minimize harm.

23. **The BLM avoids** inadvertent loss or destruction of cultural resources. Cultural resource inventories, evaluation, impact analyses and mitigation measures are required on public lands prior to any surface-disturbing activities (NEPA, FLPMA and Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act*). These requirements would not be constrained by any of the wilderness alternatives under consideration.

The *Yuma District Resource Management Plan* specifies that a "no surface occupancy" provision is applied to all *National Register* sites or areas. All sites in the Big Maria Mountains South WSA are protected by an "Area of Critical environmental concern" (ACEC) designation. In addition, cultural resources within the Crossman Peak, Whipple Mountains, Gibraltar Mountains, Cactus Plain, Big Maria Mountains South and the Muggins Mountains WSAs are designated as "Special Management Areas."

24. **The BLM is** required by the *American Indian Religious Freedom Act* (AIRFA) to consider the views of Native Americans prior to authorizing or carrying out any action which might conflict with traditional Indian religious beliefs or practices.

25. **As indicated** in the Yuma District RMP, site-specific impacts from new utility construction within designated corridors would be assessed in accordance with NEPA using an EA or EIS process prior to approval by BLM (BLM, 1985). Mitigating measures and stipulations would be developed in those environmental documents to minimize environmental harm from the construction.

26. **Any new utility** construction within a wilderness study area would impair the wilderness values of naturalness and opportunities for solitude, regardless of how this construction is mitigated.

27. **Adverse impacts** from the displacement of projected utilities to the portions of utility corridors outside of WSAs because of wilderness designations would be negligible.

28. **Development** of the new Parker townsite on lands within the Cactus Plain WSA would impair the wilderness values of naturalness and opportunities for solitude, regardless of how this development is mitigated.

29. **Short-term uses** for all WSAs would involve the protection of wilderness values within the areas under BLM's *Wilderness Interim Management Policy* (IMP), except for impacts to solitude and primitive recreation from motorized vehicle use.

30. **Those WSAs** that are described as being dependent on nearby WSAs for their solitude, primitive recreation or naturalness features will be discussed in this chapter as though the nearby WSAs were already designated as wilderness.

DEAD MOUNTAINS NORTHERN ADDITION

(AZ-050-01) — 1,815 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-1)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return 1,815 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative, the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The WSA's wilderness values would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation would be impaired by motorized vehicle use and powerline construction and maintenance.

Construction and maintenance of the four miles of powerline in the .5 mile of utility corridor inside the WSA on its eastern border would impair naturalness on 10 acres. The powerline would also be visible within the entire WSA, impairing the appearance of naturalness and the quality of opportunities for solitude over the entire area.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use (325 VDY) would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 95% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use and powerline construction and maintenance would cause loss or impairment of the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation opportunities over 100% of the unit.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

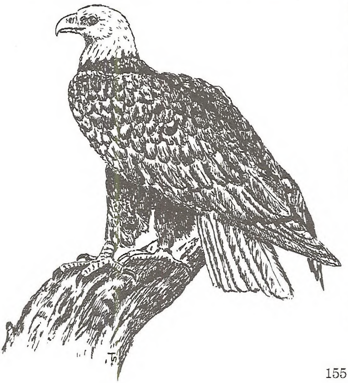
Opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities in the Dead Mountains Northern Addition WSA would remain unchanged under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would not change under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values of solitude, naturalness and primitive recreation would be impaired over 100% of the unit.



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

In the long term, the area's naturalness would be impaired by construction and maintenance of a powerline.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The wilderness values of solitude, naturalness and primitive recreation would be impaired in the area of powerline construction and maintenance.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-1)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate all 1,815 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Designation of the Dead Mountains Northern Addition WSA as wilderness would provide long-term legislative protection for wilderness values on 1,815 acres of land. Wilderness values would benefit over the entire area because anticipated powerline construction and motorized recreation use would be excluded.

Eliminating motorized recreation use on four miles of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation — sights and sounds from the present 325 VDY of motorized recreation use would no longer disturb hikers and sightseers within the area.

Precluding the development of a powerline would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 10 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across the entire area.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation on all 1,815 acres of the WSA by precluding motorized recreation use and the construction and maintenance of a powerline.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE AND QUALITY

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing the four miles of vehicle ways to motorized use, thus displacing 200 VDY of vehicle recreation to other nearby public lands.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 1,815 acres.

IMPACTS ON LAND USE

Closing the 0.5-mile-wide portion of the utility corridor in the WSA would require routing the proposed powerline across the adjacent Fort Mohave Indian Reservation. The additional permitting requirements for this rerouting could delay or stop construction of the powerline.

Conclusion: Closure of the portion of the designated utility corridor that overlaps the east boundary of the WSA under the *All Wilderness* alternative could delay or halt construction of a proposed electrical powerline.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

DEAD MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION

(AZ-050-02) — 630 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-1)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return 630 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The WSA's wilderness values would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation would be impaired by motorized vehicle use and powerline construction and maintenance.

Without wilderness protection, motorized vehicles would continue to use the WSA's three miles of trails in two washes. The quality of solitude and primitive recreation would consequently be disturbed by the sights and sounds of ORVs over the entire area.

Construction and maintenance of two miles of powerline in the 0.5 mile of utility corridor inside the WSA would impair the wilderness value of naturalness on five acres. The powerline would also be visible within the entire WSA, impairing the appearance of naturalness and the quality of opportunities for solitude over the entire area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use and powerline construction and maintenance would cause loss or impairment of the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation opportunities over 100% of the unit.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

Opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities in the Dead Mountains Southern Addition WSA would remain unchanged under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would not change under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values of solitude, naturalness and primitive recreation would be impaired over 100% of the unit.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

In the long term, the area's naturalness would be impaired by construction and maintenance of a powerline in the utility corridor.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The wilderness values of solitude, naturalness and primitive recreation would be impaired idn the area of powerline construction and maintenance.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-1)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate all 630 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the Dead Mountains Southern Addition WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for wilderness values on 630 acres of land. Wilderness values would benefit over the entire area because anticipated powerline construction and motorized recreation use would be excluded.

The closure of three miles of vehicle ways to motorized recreation use would preserve the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation.

Precluding the development of a powerline would maintain the wilderness value of naturalness on five acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalenss would be preserved and the quality of opportunities for primitive recreation and solitude sustained across the entire area.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation on all 630 acres of the WSA by precluding motorized recreation use and new powerline construction.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing three miles of vehicle ways (3.6 acres) to motorized vehicle use, thus displacing 200 VDY of vehicle recreation to other nearby public lands.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 630 acres.

IMPACTS ON LAND USE

Closing the 0.5-mile-wide portion of the utility corridor in the WSA would require routing the proposed powerline across the adjacent Fort Mohave Indian Reservation. The additional permitting requirements for this rerouting could delay or stop construction of the powerline.

Conclusion: Closure of the portion of the designated utility corridor that overlaps the e[illegible] boundary of the WSA under the *All Wilderness* alternative could delay or halt construction of a proposed electrical powerline.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

CHEMEHUEVI MOUNTAINS ADDITION WSA (AZ-050-03) — 195 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-2)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return the entire 195 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The WSA's wilderness values would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be impaired from quarry expansion and natural gas pipeline construction and maintenance.

Construction and maintenance of two miles of a natural gas pipeline in the segment of utility corridor that overlaps the WSA would disturb the natural character of five acres. The pipeline would also be visible within the entire WSA, impairing the appearance of naturalness and the quality of opportunities for solitude on the entire 195-acre area.

Expansion of the existing Bureau of Reclamation quarry at the northern end of the Chemehuevi Mountains would disturb naturalness on 85 acres. It would also impair the appearance of naturalness and the quality of opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation on the entire unit.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, wilderness values of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be impaired on all 195 acres of the WSA by the construction of two miles of natural gas pipeline and the expansion of an existing Bureau of Reclamation quarry.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

Opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation use in the Chemehuevi Mountains Addition WSA would remain unchanged under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

Nonmotorized recreation use of the WSA would double and would all shift to the western half of the area because of the expanding Bureau of Reclamation riprap quarry. Low usage (20 VDY) would not change the quality of recreation in the area, however.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use in the area would not change under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

The wilderness value of naturalness would be lost on 90 acres, and the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation would be impaired on all of the area as a result of the quarrying of riprap and construction and maintenance of a new natural gas pipeline.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

In the long term, the area's naturalness would be impaired by the quarrying of stone for riprap (which would result in removal of the stone to other areas), and construction and maintenance of the natural gas pipeline.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The wilderness values of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be lost due to quarry expansion and pipeline construction and maintenance.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-2)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate all 195 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Designation of the Chemehuevi Mountains Addition WSA as wilderness would provide legislative protection for wilderness values on 195 acres of land.

Precluding construction and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline and the expansion of a riprap quarry would maintain the wilderness value of naturalness of 90 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across the entire area.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation over 100% (195 acres) of the unit by precluding construction and maintenance of a pipeline and expansion of a riprap quarry.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

Opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use (day hiking, rockhounding) would not change because of designation, as there is presently no motorized recreation use within the area.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would not affect opportunities for recreation use in the 195-acre area.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

CHEMEHUEVI/NEEDLES ADDITION (AZ-050-04) — 960 Acres

Proposed Action/All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-2)

The *Proposed Action/All Wilderness* alternative would designate all 960 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Designation of the Chemehuevi/Needles Addition WSA as wilderness would provide long-term legislative protection for wilderness values on 960 acres of land.

This alternative's ban on motor vehicles would have no effect on wilderness values because the area is already closed to ORV use. The 20 VDY of nonmotorized recreation would not impact the wilderness values of opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation nor the natural condition of the area.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation on all 960 acres of the WSA.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

None

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

No change from present

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

No change from present

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-2)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return all 960 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The WSA's wilderness values would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation would be protected by RMP management prescriptions which closed the area to ORV use.

Maintaining the closure to ORVs would ensure that the sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would not impair the wilderness qualities of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 100% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be able to continue to enjoy primitive recreation without encountering vehicles, thus preserving the quality of the backcountry experience.

Opportunities for 20 VDY of nonmotorized recreation would impact neither the wilderness values of opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation opportunities nor the natural condition of the area.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would protect the wilderness qualities of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation over 100% of the unit.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

Visitor use would increase (10 VDY to 20 VDY) but would remain nonmotorized under the *No Wilderness* alternative. Opportunities for nonmotorized recreation activities in the Chemehuevi/Needles Addition would remain unchanged under the *No Wilderness* alternative. The area would remain closed to motorized vehicle use causing no change from the present situation.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would not change under the *No Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative

NEEDLES EASTERN ADDITION
(AZ-050-05B) — 465 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-3)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return 465 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Needles Eastern Addition WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values of naturalness, solitude, and primitive recreation in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use (90 VDY) would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities opportunities across 25% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use would cause loss or impairment of the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation opportunities over 25% of the unit.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

Opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities in the Needles Eastern Addition WSA would remain unchanged under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would not change under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

About one mile of vehicle ways and desert washes that motorized vehicles would be using is identified wildlife habitat for the desert bighorn sheep. This traffic would continue to impact the habitat but not significantly.

Conclusion: The continuation and increase of motorized vehicle use would not significantly impact the wildlife habitat.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values of solitude, naturalness and primitive recreation would be impaired over 25% of the unit.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

In the long term, the area's naturalness would be impaired by continuing ORV use in the area.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The wilderness values of solitude, naturalness and primitive recreation would be impaired by allowing ORV use to continue.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-3)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 465 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Needles Eastern Addition WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for wilderness values on 465 acres of land. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 25% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation on all 465 acres of the WSA by precluding motorized recreation use.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing the one mile of vehicle ways to motorized use, thus displacing 45 VDY of vehicle recreation to other nearby public lands.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 465 acres.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

Designation would keep vehicles off the vehicle ways and the desert wash, which would protect priority wildlife habitat for desert bighorn sheep. This action would beneficially impact the desert bighorn sheep.

Conclusion: Priority wildlife habitat for desert bighorn sheep would be benefited by eliminating vehicular traffic.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

CROSSMAN PEAK
(AZ-050-07B) — 38,630 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness
(Map 2-4)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* for the Crossman Peak WSA would designate 19,290 acres as wilderness and 19,340 acres for other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative in that boundary adjustments would allow for a 500-foot maintenance corridor along the western boundary, permit crucial wildlife habitat improvements to be outside the wilderness on the east and north, eliminate high potential mineralized areas with past production and retain the highest quality lands that include most of the designated Crossman Peak natural scenic area.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 19,290 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use and two anticipated mining ventures would be excluded. Five mines, on mining claims with valid existing rights, would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values — however, this use would occur in any event.

Precluding the development within the wilderness of two moderate mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 100 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be sustained across 600 acres.

Five mining operations on claims with valid existing rights and their associated 1.5 mile of road construction would cause extensive and long-term surface disturbances that would impair the natural character of 162 acres. Visitors' perception of naturalness would also be lost or impaired over an area of 900 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on seven miles of vehicle ways (8.4 acres of wilderness) would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 1,400 acres of the designated portion of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes, river bottoms and trails would be available for only foot and horseback travel.

Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation that would be preserved by wilderness designation include skill-testing cross-country treks, excellent horseback possibilities, and sightseeing for unique plant communities.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 95% of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 19,290 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of exploration activities and the denial of two moderate mines (covering 100 acres). Gold and tungsten resources in the area would not be fully developed as a result.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of gold and tungsten resources at two potential mines within the designated area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 19,290 acres by closing seven miles of vehicle ways and displacing 25 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands. Nonmotorized recreation activities that would benefit from these actions include horseback riding, day hiking, sightseeing, overnight backpacking, wildlife observation and photography.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 13,735 acres by displacing 25 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would further protect 13,700 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by precluding the development of two moderate mines that would disturb 100 acres within the area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would protect 13,700 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mineral developments.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the 19,340-acre portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use and water catchment construction.

Construction of one apron water catchment would impair the natural character of one acre (area with extensive and long-term surface disturbance). Visitors' perception of naturalness would be lost or impaired over an area of 250 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights of the catchment.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate around areas subject to motorized vehicle traffic (six miles of vehicle ways (7.2 acres)). The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use on these areas would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities over a larger area of 1,200 acres.

Conclusion: Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, motorized vehicle use and water catchment construction would impair wilderness values on 9% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 19,340 acres of public land. As a result, there would be exploration programs in the northern portion of the WSA and no mining developments would be denied in the area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 19,340 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation use on 19,340 acres of WSA, although motorized recreation use levels would increase slightly due to displacement from the wilderness portion of the area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 19,340 acres of WSA.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not preclude mining development on 8,550 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. However, since no mining development is projected in this area, no adverse impacts to the crucial bighorn sheep habitat are anticipated.

Conclusion: No impacts to the 8,550 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat outside of the wilderness proposal are anticipated under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values on portions of the WSA would be disturbed by mineral development, motorized vehicle use and water catchment construction.

Two potential mining developments would be denied.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of five mines would disturb the naturalness of the area in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use. Wilderness values would be impaired on 162 acres developed for minerals.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-5)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 38,630 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Crossman Peak WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use and some mining would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, five mines (on mining claims that had proven discoveries or on nonfederal minerals) would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding the development of two moderate mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 100 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality and solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across 600 acres.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on 13 miles of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 35% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

The natural character of five acres and the perception of naturalness on 120 acres would be impaired by the development of a pothole or dam wildlife water catchment. Installed under strict wilderness management constraints, however, the facilities would blend in with their surroundings and be noticeable only upon direct encounter instead of on the 120 acres surrounding the waters. There would be some brief losses during construction and periodic maintenance.

Because of valid existing rights, development of five mines is anticipated whether the area is designated wilderness or not. Mining and 1.5 miles of road construction would result in long-term loss of naturalness on 162 acres. The sights and sounds of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, a visitor's perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 900 acres.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 95% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, powerline maintenance, and some mining.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 38,630 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of exploration activities and the denial of two moderate mines (covering 100 acres). Gold and tungsten resources in the area would not be fully developed as a result.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of gold and tungsten resources at two potential mines within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing 13 miles of vehicle ways, thus displacing 95 VDY of motorized use. Nonmotorized recreation activities — day hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and rockhounding — on 38,630 acres within the area would benefit as a result.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 36,630 acres by closing 13 miles of vehicle ways to motorized recreation use.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would provide further protection for 22,250 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat by precluding the development of two moderate mines that would disturb 100 acres within the area.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would protect 22,190 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mineral developments.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-5)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 38,630 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Crossman Peak WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use, mining exploration programs, seven anticipated mining ventures, and the construction of an apron water catchment.

Mining exploration programs would impair the natural character of six acres, and seven mining operations and their associated 1.5 mile of road construction would impair the natural character of 262 acres. (Presently, these areas have some evidence of mining and are reached by unmaintained and barely discernible vehicle trails.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 1,200 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction of an apron water catchment would directly disturb the naturalness and solitude on one acre and the visitor's perception of those wilderness qualities over the 150 acres in which it would be visible.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by the mining and water catchment development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access are the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunites. Hiking and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline around Crossman Peak — a result of road building and mining.

Because 13 miles of vehicle ways and 1.5 mile of mine roads would be open, the sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 35% of the WSA. Improved mine road access on 4.5 miles of new road would permit vehicles to traverse or reach portions of the WSA presently infrequently or never visited by motor-dependent recreationists. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, road construction and water catchments would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 50% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, the WSA would remain open to mineral entry under the general mining laws.

It is estimated that seven mines (covering 262 acres) would eventually be developed within the WSA.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities occurring in the Crossman Peak WSA.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged under the *No Action* alternative.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not preclude any mining development on 22,250 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat from mineral entry and development. Consequently, 268 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by mining exploration programs and the development of seven mines within the area.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not protect 22,250 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

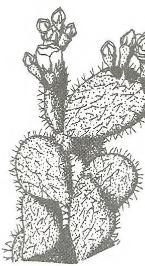
MOHAVE WASH WSA
(AZ-050-076/050-48/020-52)
103,365 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness
(Map 2-6)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* for the Mohave Wash WSA would designate 55,010 acres as wilderness and 48,347 acres for other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative by making boundary adjustments to allow cherrystemming of vehicle ways used for public access, follow geographic features, exclude some existing wildlife water developments, exclude areas of high mineral potential with prior production, and allow easy access to nearby developed areas near the west boundary.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.



IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Partial Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 55,018 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded.

The natural character of one acre and the perception of naturalness on 60 acres would be impaired by the development of two wildlife water pothole developments.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on 10 miles of vehicle way (12 acres) would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 2,500 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes and trails would be available for only foot and horseback travel.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 96% of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 55,018 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of two exploration programs covering 1.5 acres.

No mining development is projected in the designated area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* curtail some mineral exploration activities in the designated area. No mining development would be prevented, however, as none is projected in the area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 55,018 acres by closing 10 miles of vehicle ways, shifting motorized recreation use to nearby public lands. Nonmotorized recreation activities that would benefit from these actions include horseback riding, day hiking, overnight backpacking, sightseeing and wildlife observation and photography.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 55,018 acres by closing 10 miles of vehicle ways to motorized recreation use.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses (48,347 acres) would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining, motorized vehicle use, and powerline construction and maintenance.

Two mining operations would cause extensive and long-term surface disturbances that would impair the natural character of 353 acres. Visitors' perception of naturalness would be lost or impaired over an area of 2,500 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities in the area would deteriorate around areas subject to mining (2,500 acres — 5% of the nondesignated area) and motorized vehicle traffic (40 miles of vehicle ways (48 acres) — 0.1% of the nondesignated area).

One apron catchment and one pothole for wildlife would be installed in the nondesignated area — these facilities would not affect the natural character of this area, however.

Construction and maintenance of three miles of electrical transmission line in the utility corridor that overlaps the southwest corner of the WSA would disturb 7.5 acres, impairing the wilderness qualities of naturalness and opportunities for solitude. In addition, the presence of the line would reduce visitors' perception of naturalness over 200 acres. Surface disturbance would result from tower construction, transmission line installation and cross-country travel by heavy equipment.

Conclusion: Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, two mines, a transmission line and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on 3,200 acres (6% of the WSA).

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 48,347 acres of public land. As a result, there would be one exploration program and two mines (totaling 353 acres) developed in the undesignated portion of the area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of mineral exploration programs or mines within the 48,347 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change the existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation use on 48,347 acres of WSA, although motorized recreation use levels would increase slightly because of displacement from the wilderness portion of the area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation uses on 48,347 acres of WSA.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral activities to disturb 14,466 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. Consequently, 353 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by a mineral exploration program and the development of two mines. In addition, 50 acres of bighorn sheep lambing grounds would be disturbed by one of the mines.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not protect 14,466 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values on portions of the WSA would be disturbed by mineral development, motorized vehicle use, and powerline construction and maintenance.

Crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by mineral activities and motorized recreation use.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of two mines and one exploration program and the construction of a powerline would disturb the naturalness of the area in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use. Wilderness values would be impaired on the 353 acres developed for minerals.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-7)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 103,365 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Mohave Wash WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use and some mining would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, one mine (on mining claims that have proven discoveries or on nonfederal minerals) would be developed within the WSA in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding the development of one small surface mine would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 50 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalaness would be preserved and the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across 3,800 acres.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on 50 miles of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 15% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

The wilderness value of naturalness would be impaired on six acres by the development of four water catchments. Installed under strict management constraints, however, the facilities would blend in with their surroundings and be noticeable only upon 50 acres instead of on the 200 acres surrounding the waters. There would be some brief losses of solitude and naturalness during construction and periodic maintenance.

Because of valid existing rights, development of one mine is anticipated whether the area is designated wilderness or not. Mining would result in long-term loss of naturalness on 50 acres. The sights and sounds of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, a visitor's perception of the naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 500 acres.

Wilderness designtion would preclude some of the development associated with the one mine that is projected under this alternative. As a result, the wilderness value of naturalness would be maintained on 300 acres around the development.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 99.4% of the WSA by precluding some potential mining and motorized vehicle use. (Mining on existing claims (with valid existing rights) and three water catchments would impair 0.6% of the WSA.)

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 103,365 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of two exploration programs (covering 1.5 acres) and the denial of one small surface mine (covering 50 acres).

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would curtail some mineral exploration activities and prevent the development of one potential mine in the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation by closing 50 miles of vehicle ways in the WSA. Nonmotorized recreation activities within the area — day hiking and associated activities — would benefit as a result.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 103,365 acres by closing 50 miles of vehicle ways to nonmotorized recreation use.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would further protect 39,662 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by precluding a mineral exploration program and the development of one mine that would disturb 53 acres within the area, and also precluding surface disturbances on an area of 300 acres around another mining development.

Conclusion: Under the *All Wilderness* alternative, 39,912 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be further protected by preventing surface disturbances from mining developments.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-7)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 103,365 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Mohave Wash WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use, mining developments, construction and maintenance of an electrical transmission line, and construction of wildlife water catchments.

Four mining exploration programs would impair the natural character of eight acres, and two mining operations would impair the natural character of 350 acres. (Presently, these areas have some evidence of mining and are reached by unmaintained and barely discernible vehicle trails.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 2,500 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction and maintenance of three miles of an electrical transmission line in the utility corridor that overlaps the southwest corner of the WSA would disturb 7.5 acres, impairing the wilderness qualities of naturalness and opportunities for solitude. In addition, the presence of the line would reduce visitors' perception of naturalness over 200 acres.

Construction of four proposed rainwater catchments in the rugged southern portion of the WSA would impair the natural character of eight acres — a result of apron and fence construction and storage tank/pipeline installation. Access of backhoes or other machinery would also cause surface disturbance from cross-country travel. Although camouflaged to reduce visual impacts, the catchment would be noticeable to visitors above the site, and would lessen a visitor's perception of naturalness on 200 acres.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by mining and water catchment development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access are the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunities. Hiking and sightseeing opportunities in the central section would decline because of the mining development.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 15% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, powerlines and water catchments would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 20% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, all 103,365 acres of public land in the WSA would be open to mineral entry under the mining laws.

It is estimated that four exploration programs (covering eight acres) would be undertaken and two mines (covering 350 acres) would eventually be developed to exploit precious metal resources in the area.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, opportunities for recreation use in the Mohave Wash WSA would not change. Ninety-five percent of this use would be motorized — 4-wheeling, hunter access, recreational mining, rockhound, sightseeing and vehicle-based camping. Five percent would be nonmotorized — horseback riding, day hiking, overnight backpacking, sightseeing, wildlife observation and photography.

Conclusion: Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, none of the 39,962 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be protected from mining activities. Consequently, 353 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by a mineral exploration program and the development of two mines. In addition, 50 acres of bighorn sheep lambing grounds would be disturbed by one of the mines.

Conclusion: Crucial bighorn sheep habitat would not be protected from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments on 39,962 acres under the *No Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

WHIPPLE MOUNTAINS ADDITION (AZ-050-10) — 1,380 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-8)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* for the Whipple Mountains Addition WSA would designate 1,260 acres as wilderness and 120 acres for other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative in that the eastern boundary was adjusted to allow for a proposed powerline in the existing corridor.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 1,260 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in the area because one mine and motorized vehicle use would be excluded.

Precluding the development within the wilderness of one moderate mine would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 300 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness and the availability of opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be sustained across 630 acres.

One mine, on mining claims with valid existing rights, would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values — however, this would occur in any event. The development of the mine would disturb naturalness on 50 acres, but would affect solitude and primitive recreation on 630 acres.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on 1,260 acres of wilderness would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 630 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes and trails would be available for only foot and horseback travel.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 630 acres (46%) of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 1,260 acres of public land from mineral entry under the Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness alternative would result in the denial of one moderate mine (covering 300 acres). Precious metal resources in the area would not be fully developed as a result.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of precious metal resources at one potential mine within the designated area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 1,260 acres by closing a 0.5 mile of vehicle ways and displacing 66 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands. Nonmotorized recreation activities that would benefit from these actions include horseback riding, day hiking, sightseeing, overnight backpacking, wildlife observation and photography.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 1,260 acres by displacing 60 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would further protect 1,260 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by precluding the development of one moderate mine that would disturb 300 acres within the area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would protect 1,260 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mineral developments.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the 120-acre portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would deteriorate around areas subject to motorized vehicle traffic (a 0.5 mile of vehicle ways (0.6 acres)). The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use on these areas would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities over a larger area of 120 acres.

Conclusion: Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values over the entire 120 acres of the undesignated portion of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation use on 120 acres of WSA, although motorized recreation use levels would increase slightly from absorbing some of the displaced use from the wilderness portion of the area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 120 acres of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not preclude ORV use and powerline maintenance on 120 acres of critical bighorn sheep habitat. However, this small area is marginal and expected to have little impact on bighorn populations.

Conclusion: Minor impairment to the 120 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat outside of the wilderness proposal is anticipated under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values on portions of the WSA would be disturbed by mineral development and motorized recreation use. Crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by motorized recreation use, and powerline construction and maintenance.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of one mine would disturb the naturalness of the area in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use. Wilderness values would be impaired on the 50 acres developed for minerals.

All Wilderness Alternative

The *All Wilderness* alternative for the Whipple Mountains WSA would designate 1,380 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 1,380 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because an anticipated mining venture would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, one mine, on mining claims with valid existing rights, would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding the development within the wilderness of one mine would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 300 acres. The perception of naturalness and the availability of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would be sustained across 840 acres. Without wilderness designation, these lands would otherwise be impacted by mine excavations, the construction of 1.0 mile of mine road and other sights and sounds associated with mining.

The development of one mine and associated actions would disturb 50 acres and degrade available solitude and primitive recreation opportunities on 540 acres.

Wilderness designation would also maintain the existing caliber and array of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities on lands otherwise impacted by mining and roads.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on one mile of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 10% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

Conclusion: One mine and other surface disturbances would be denied, preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation on 37.6% of the area. One mine would be developed in the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 1,380 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would deny one mine and an exploration program, but allow the development of one other mine on claims that had proven discoveries. Base and precious metals resource development would be limited as a result.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would prevent exploration and the development of one moderate mine.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would close 0.5 mile of vehicle ways, eliminating and displacing 60 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands. Nonmotorized recreation opportunities would be enhanced as a result.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would displace 60 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands. This would enhance nonmotorized recreation opportunities.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would protect 1,330 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by denying one mine and exploration in the area. Closing 0.5 miles of vehicle ways would allow the disturbed area to revegetate. One mine would be developed, disturbing 50 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would protect 1,330 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mining.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-9)

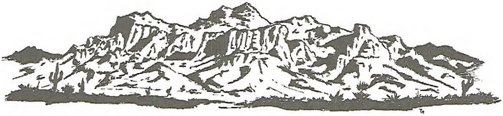
The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 1,380 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Whipple Mountains Addition WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values of naturalness, solitude, and primitive recreation would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use and the development of two mines with access roads.

Two mining operations and their associated 1.75 miles of road construction would impair the natural character of 352 acres. (Presently, these areas have no evidence of mining and are reached by unmaintained and barely discernible vehicle trails.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over the entire area of 1,380 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, constructin, roads and traffic.



The sights and sounds of motorized recreation would lessen the quality and solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 100% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of backcountry experience.

Conclusion: Motorized vehicle use and mining would cause a loss or impairment of the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 100% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 1,380 acres of public land. There would be two exploration programs and two mines developed in the WSA.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities occurring in the WSA. The 0.5 mile of vehicle ways and 1.75 miles of new roads would remain open to motorized recreation uses. The motorized recreation use would increase from 60 to 125 VDY due to improved access from the 1.75 miles of new mining roads. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 40 to 75 VDY due to increased population and winter visitors.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not impact opportunities for recreation use in the area. Motorized use would increase because of an additional 1.75 miles of new roads. Nonmotorized use would increase primarily because of population and winter visitor increase.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and road development to disturb 350 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. The mining and increased motorized recreation use would disturb the bighorn sheep, causing some of them to move to less favorable habitat.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and motorized recreation uses to disturb bighorn sheep.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative

GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN (AZ-050-12) — 25,260 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness (Map 2-10)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* for the Gibraltar Mountain WSA would designate 15,675 acres as wilderness and 9,585 acres for other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative in that boundary adjustments would reduce conflicts with high potential mineralized areas on the west boundary of the WSA, improve recreation access on the southwest boundary, and improve recreation access and reduce conflicts with high potential mineralized areas along the eastern boundary.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 15,675 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on six miles of vehicle ways (7.2 acres) of wilderness would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 200 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes and trails would be available for foot and horseback travel only.

The area's size, isolation and inaccessibility contribute to the visitor's excellent opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Skill-testing cross-country treks, excellent horseback possibilities, unique landscape, and plant and animal sightseeing experiences would be preserved for the wilderness visitor.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would close six miles of vehicle ways, thereby preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Subject to valid existing rights, the withdrawal of 15,675 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of exploration activities and the denial of one moderate and two small mines covering 260 acres. Gold and copper resources in the area would not be fully developed as a result.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of gold resources at two potential mines within the designated area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 15,675 acres by closing six miles of vehicle ways and displacing 450 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands. Nonmotorized recreation activities that would benefit from these actions include horseback riding, hiking, overnight backpacking, wildlife observation and photography.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 15,675 acres by displacing 450 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would further protect 14,800 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by precluding the development of one moderate and two small mines that would disturb 260 acres within the area. Closing six miles of vehicle ways would allow the disturbed area to revegetate, thus allowing 7.2 acres of wildlife habitat to improve.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would protect 14,800 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mineral developments and motorized vehicle use.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the 9,585-acre portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining, powerline construction and motorized vehicle use.

Three mining operations and their associated two miles of road construction and exploration programs would impair the natural character of 109 acres (areas with extensive and long-term surface disturbance). The visual and audible impacts of mining would extend outside the areas of actual surface disturbance. WSA lands next to access routes and around the mines would also be affected. Visitors' perception of naturalness would be lost or impaired over an area of 1,100 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic. The natural character of remaining nondesignated lands would not be affected by development.

Construction and maintenance of 4.5 miles of a major powerline in the corridor that overlaps the WSA's northeast boundary would disturb naturalness on 11.25 acres within the area. The presence of this powerline would also impair naturalness and opportunities for solitude over 200 acres.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate on areas subject to mining (100 acres — 1% of the nondesignated area) and motorized vehicle traffic (11 miles of vehicle ways — 13.2 acres — less than 1% of the nondesignated area). Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities available elsewhere on the nondesignated parcels would be unchanged.

Conclusion: Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, four mines, 4.5 miles of powerline and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on 6% of the WSA. All other lands, totaling 8,085 acres, would remain undisturbed.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 9,585 acres of public land. As a result, exploration programs would continue and three mines would be developed in the eastern and western portions of the WSA.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would leave 9,585 acres of public land open to mineral development and allow three mines to be developed.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation use on 9,585 acres of WSA. The 11 miles of vehicle ways and three miles of new roads would remain open to motorized recreation uses. The motorized recreation use would increase from 450 to 1,385 VDY due to improved access from the three miles of new mining roads and increased population and winter visitors. Nonmotorized recreation use would not increase from the present 100 VDY.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 9,585 acres of WSA. Motorized recreation use would increase because of an additional 3.0 miles of new roads and increased population and winter visitors. Nonmotorized use would not increase.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and road development to disturb 109 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. Mining and increased motorized recreation use would disturb bighorn sheep, causing some of them to move to less favorable habitat.

Conclusion: Disturbances to bighorn sheep habitat would occur on the 9,585 acres not designated as wilderness due to mining uses.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Crucial bighorn sheep habitat and existing wilderness values on portions of the WSA would be disturbed by mineral development and motorized vehicle use.

Three potential mining developments would be denied.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of three mines would disturb the naturalness of the area in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use. Wilderness values would be lost on 109 acres developed for minerals.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-11)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 25,260 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Gibraltar Mountain WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded on 17 miles of vehicle ways, seven miles of a new electrical transmission line would not be built in the WSA, and 305 acres of mining disturbance with 3.25 miles of related new roads would not occur.

Precluding the development one moderate and two small mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 305 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across 1,200 acres.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on 17 miles of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 20% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

Because of valid existing rights, development of four mines is anticipated whether the area is designated wilderness or not. Mining and three miles of road construction would result in long-term loss of naturalness on 70 acres. The sights and sounds of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, a visitor's perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 250 acres. Reclamation might lessen the effects, but surface disturbances are expected to be long-lasting in this area.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 99% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, powerline construction and most mineral development.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 25,260 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of most exploration activities and the denial of one moderate and two small mines (covering 305 acres). Four underground mines that would produce copper, gold and silver in the east and west portions of the area would be developed on claims that had proven discoveries. One exploration program would occur.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of potential copper, gold and silver resources of three mines within the WSA, but allow one exploration program to continue.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing 17 miles of vehicle ways, thus displacing 900 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands. Nonmotorized recreation activities — horseback riding, hiking, wildlife observations, and photography — on 25,260 acres within the area would benefit as a result.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 25,260 acres within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would provide further protection for 23,240 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat. Closing 17 miles of vehicle ways would allow the disturbed area to revegetate, thus allow 20.4 acres of wildlife habitat to improve. Four mines and three miles of roads would disturb 70 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would protect 23,240 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by closing 17 miles of vehicle ways, which would revegetate over time.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-11)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 25,260 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Gibraltar Mountain WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use, mining exploration programs, anticipated mining ventures, road construction and electrical transmission line construction.

Four mining operations and their associated 6.25 miles of road construction and exploration programs would impair the natural character of 374 acres. (Presently, these areas have moderate evidence of mining and are reached by unmaintained and barely discernible vehicle trails.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 1,500 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Long-term visual impacts to naturalness would remain, even after mining ceased and mine site reclamation completed. Rehabilitative processes (both natural and by machine) are slow in this arid area, with its precipitous slopes and canyons, shallow soils and rocky terrain. Road construction with full bench cuts would create long-term visual impacts in this mountainous area. Mining noise would continue until operations ceased.

Seven miles of a major powerline would be constructed, temporarily disturbing 17.5 acres along the northeast boundary. The presence of this powerline would impair naturalness and solitude over 300 acres.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by the development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access would be the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunites. Wilderness caliber hiking and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline around Gibraltar Mountain — a result of road building and mining.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use on 17 miles of vehicle ways would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 20% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The No Wilderness alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, road construction and an electrical powerline would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 10% of the WSA. The remaining

90% of the WSA would not be affected by these disturbances.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, the WSA would remain open to mineral entry under the general mining laws. There would be exploration programs and an estimated five mines developed in the east and west portions of the WSA.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities occurring in the Gibraltar Mountain WSA.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged under the *No Wilderness* alternative.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not preclude any mining development on 23,310 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat from mineral entry and development. Consequently, 374 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by mining exploration programs and the development of six mines within the area.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not protect 23,310 acres of crucial desert bighorn sheep habitat because of surface disturbances caused by mineral developments.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

PLANET PEAK (AZ-050-13) — 17,645 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-12)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* for the Planet Peak WSA would designate 16,430 acres as wilderness and return 1,215 acres to other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative in that the eastern boundary was adjusted to accommodate mineral developments on the east side.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 16,430 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because one-half the anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use, three mining ventures, an exploration activity and a 5-mile powerline would be excluded. Two mines, on mining claims with valid existing rights, would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values — however, this use would occur in any event.

Precluding the development within the wilderness of one mine and exploration activity would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 53 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness and opportunities of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would be sustained across 500 acres. Without wilderness designation, these lands would otherwise be impacted by mine excavation, the construction of 0.75 mile of mine roads and other sites and sounds associated with mining.

The natural character of two acres and the perception of naturalness on 10 acres would be impaired by the development of two pothole wildlife water catchments.

The natural character of 12.5 acres and the perception of naturalness on 500 acres within the WSA would be preserved by precluding the development of a five-mile segment of an electrical transmission line. Without designation, these lands would be subject to surface disturbance from powerline construction, pole installation and cross-country travel by heavy equipment.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on a three-mile vehicle way (3.6 acres of wilderness) would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 500 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes and trails would be available for only foot and horseback travel.

Wilderness designation would also maintain existing opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation on lands otherwise impacted by mining and roads. The area's size, isolation and inaccessibility contribute to the visitor's opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Skill-testing cross-country treks, excellent horseback possibilities, unique landscape, and plant and animal sightseeing experiences would be preserved for the wilderness visitor.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 93% of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments, powerline maintenance and construction, and motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 16,430 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of an exploration activity and the denial of a moderate underground mine (covering 50 acres). Gold, copper and silver resources on the area would not be fully developed as a result.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of gold and silver resources at one potential mine in the designated area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 16,430 acres by closing 30 miles of vehicle ways and displacing 80 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands of similar quality. Nonmotorized recreation activities that would benefit from these actions include day hiking, sightseeing, wildlife observation, and photography. Use would increase from 15 to 180 VDY with most of the increase in population and winter visitors.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 16,430 acres by displacing 80 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would further protect 6,360 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. Closing 30 miles of vehicle ways would allow the disturbed area to revegetate, thus allowing 3.6 acres of wildlife habitat to improve.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would protect 6,360 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat and close 30 miles of vehicle ways which would revegetate over time, thus improving the wildlife habitat.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the 1,215-acre portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining and motorized vehicle use.

One moderate size mine and one small size mine and their associated one mile of road construction would impair the natural character of 56 acres (areas with extensive and long-term surface disturbance). The visual and audible impacts of mining would extend outside the areas of actual surface disturbance. WSA lands next to access routes and around the mines would also be affected. Visitors' perception of naturalness would be lost or impaired over an area of 200 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic. The natural character of remaining nondesignated lands would not be affected by development.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate on areas subject to mining (56 acres — 5% of the nondesignated area) and motorized vehicle traffic on the mine road (0.5 mile and 0.6 acres). The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use on these areas would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities elsewhere on the nondesignated parcels.

Conclusion: Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequenty, mining and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on less than 1% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 1,215 acres of public land. There would be an exploration program and two mines developed in the eastern portion of the WSA.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 1,215 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change the existing opportunities for recreation uses on 1,215 acres of WSA. The motorized and nonmotorized recreation uses would increase slightly due to the displacement from the wilderness portion of the area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation uses on the 1,215 acres of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and road development to disturb 50 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. The increased mining and motorized recreation use would cause some of them to move to less favorable habitat.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and motorized recreation uses to disturb bighorn sheep habitat.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by mining and motorized recreation use.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of five mines would disturb the naturalness of the area in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-13)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 17,645 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Planet Peak WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use, mostly mining, and a powerline would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, three mines (on mining claims that have proven discoveries or on nonfederal minerals) would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding the development of two mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 55 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across 450 acres.

Eliminating all motorized recreation on three miles of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 5% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

The natural character of 12.5 acres and the perception of naturalness on 200 acres would be preserved by precluding the development of a five-mile section of an electrical transmission line.

The wilderness character of two acres would be impaired by two wildlife catchments. Installed under strict wilderness management constraints, however, the facilities would blend in with their surroundings and be noticeable only upon direct encounter instead of on the 20 acres surrounding the waters. There would be some brief losses of naturalness during construction and periodic maintenance.

Because of valid existing rights, development of three mines is anticipated in the area designated wilderness. Mining and 2.5 miles of road construction would result in long-term loss of naturalness on 120 acres. The sights and sounds of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, a visitor's perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 510 acres.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 5% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, mineral development and an electrical transmission line.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 17,645 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would curtail exploration activities and result in the denial of two mines (covering 55 acres). Gold and silver resources in the area would not be fully developed as a result.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of gold and silver resources at two potential mines in the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing 30 miles of vehicle ways, thus displacing 80 VDY of motorized use. Nonmotorized recreation activities — day hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and rockhounding — would benefit as a result.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 17,645 acres by displacing 80 VDY of motorized recreation use.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would provide further protection for 6,415 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by denying mining and exploration in the area. Closing 3.0 miles of vehicle ways would allow the disturbed area to revegetate, thus allow 3.6 acres of wildlife to improve.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would provide further protection for 6,415 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by closing 30 miles of vehicle ways within the area.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-13)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 17,645 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Planet Peak WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use, mining, road construction, water development and a powerline.

Five mining operations and their associated 3.75 miles of road construction and exploration programs would impair the natural character of 124.5 acres. Presently, these areas have evidence of mining in the northern and eastern portions and are reached by unmaintained and barely discernible vehicle trails. Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 1,000 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction of two proposed rainwater catchments in the central portion of the WSA would impair the natural character of two acres — a result of pothole and fence construction and storage tank/pipeline installation. Vehicle access would also cause surface disturbance from cross-country travel. Although camouflaged to reduce visual impacts, the catchment would be noticeable to visitors above the site, and would lessen a visitor's perception of naturalness on 20 acres.

Construction and maintenance of a five-mile section of electrical transmission line in the corridor that overlaps the WSA's southwest boundary would disturb the natural character of 12.5 acres within the area, and impair the perception of naturalness on 200 acres.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of developments and vastly improved vehicular access would be the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunities. Hiking and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline around Planet Peak — a result of road building, mining and wildlife water catchments.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would also lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 5% of the WSA. Improved mine road access on 3.75 miles would permit vehicles to traverse or reach portions of the WSA presently infrequently by motor-dependent recreationists. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: Motorized vehicle use, mining, mine roads and a powerline would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 9% of the WSA. The remaining 91% of the WSA would not be greatly affected by motorized vehicle recreation.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative the WSA would remain open to mineral entry under the mining laws.

It is estimated that five mines (covering 121 acres) would eventually be developed within the WSA.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines in the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *No Wilderness* alternative would leave 3.0 miles of vehicle ways open to motorized use. Motorized use would increase from 80 to 140 VDY due to increased population and 3.75 miles of new roads. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 20 to 35 VDY with most of the increase in population.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow 3.0 miles of vehicle ways to remain open and 3.75 miles of new roads, thus increasing motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow 13 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat to be degraded by mining activity and two miles of new roads.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow 13 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat to be degraded.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

CACTUS PLAIN
(AZ-050-14A/B) — 70,360 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-14)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* for the Cactus Plain WSA would designate 62,325 acres as wilderness and 8,035 acres for other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative in that the boundary was adjusted to allow for development of high mineral potential land in the northwest part, to facilitate motorized access to range improvements in the northern part, to avoid conflict with Native American traditional values associated with Black Peak, to use Osborne Wash as part of the boundary, to accommodate the transfer of a 3,325-acre area to the State of Arizona and to accommodate development of a designated utility corridor along the western boundary.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Partial Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 62,325 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because most anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use, and anticipated mining ventures would be excluded.

Precluding the development within the wilderness of three mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 1,100 acres. The perception of naturalness and the availability of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would be sustained across 4,000 acres. Without wilderness designation, these lands would be impacted by mine excavations, the construction of 5.75 miles of mine road and other sites and sounds associated with mining.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on two miles of vehicle ways and washes along the north boundary of wilderness area would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 7,680 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes and trails would be available for foot and horseback travel only.

Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation that would be preserved by wilderness designation include skill-testing cross-country treks, primitive camping, nature study, and sightseeing for unique plant communities associated with the stabilized sand dunes.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 100% of the designated portion of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 62,325 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of exploration activities and the denial of three moderate mines (covering 1,100 acres).

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of three potential mines within the designated area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing 20 miles of vehicle ways, eliminating and displacing 810 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands of similar quality. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 80 to 255 VDY, with most of the increase due to regional population growth, more winter visitors and development of the new Parker townsite.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 62,325 acres by displacing 810 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the 8,035-acre portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining, motorized vehicle use, powerline construction and urban development.

Two mining operations and their associated 0.75 mile of road construction would impair the natural character of 56 acres (areas with extensive and long-term surface disturbance). The visual and audible impacts of mining would extend outside the areas of actual surface disturbance. WSA lands next to access routes and around the mines would also be affected. A visitor's perception of naturalness would be lost or impaired over an area of 3,100 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic. The natural character of remaining nondesignated lands would not be affected by development.

Construction of 10 miles of a new electrical transmission line would impair the natural character of 25 acres and a visitor's perception of naturalness and solitude over 6,500 acres.

Development of the new Parker townsite would disturb the natural character of 20 acres in the southwestern corner of the WSA, and impair the perception of naturalness and opportunities for solitude on 500 acres in the area.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate on areas subject to mining (56 acres — 0.7% of the nondesignated area) and motorized vehicle traffic (2 miles of vehicle ways — 24 acres — less than 1% of the nondesignated area). Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities elsewhere on the nondesignated parcels would be unchanged.

Conclusion: Adverse impacts to wilderness would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, two mines, motorized vehicle use, powerline construction and urban growth would impair wilderness values on 90% of the undesignated portion of the WSA. The other 1,000 acres would remain undisturbed.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 8,035 acres of public land. There would be exploration programs and two mines developed in the northwestern portion of the WSA.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would leave 8,035 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 8,035 acres of WSA. The 10.2 miles of vehicle ways and .75 mile of new roads would remain open to motorized recreation uses. The motorized recreation use would increase from 90 to 2,550 VDY due to improved access from the .75 mile of new mining roads and development of the new Parker townsite. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 10 to 45 VDY because of the development of the new Parker townsite.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation uses on 8,035 acres. Motorized use and nonmotorized use would increase because of the development of the new Parker townsite.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values on portions of the WSA would be disturbed by mineral development, motorized vehicle use, and development of 20 acres in the new Parker townsite.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of two mines and the new townsite would disturb the naturalness of the area in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use. Wilderness values would be impaired on 56 acres devoted to mining activities.

The development of the townsite would commit the land to permanent urban use and impair wilderness values on 20 acres.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-15)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 70,360 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Cactus Plain WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for the wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use and some mining would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, two mines (on mining claims that had proven discoveries) would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding the development of three mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 1,100 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across 4,000 acres. Eliminating all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 16% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

The natural character of 25 acres and the perception of naturalness on 6,500 acres would be preserved by precluding the construction of a 10-mile section of a powerline in the WSA. An additional 20 acres would be preserved by precluding development of the Parker townsite.

Because of valid existing rights, development of two mines is anticipated in the area designated wilderness. Mining and 0.75 miles of road construction would result in long-term loss or naturalness on 56 acres. The sights and sounds of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, a visitor's perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 3,100 acres. Reclamation might lessen the effects, but surface disturbances are expected to be long lasting in this area.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 90% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, mineral development, powerline construction and road construction.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 70,360 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would result in denial of three mines.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of three mines in the designated area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation by closing 12.2 miles of vehicle ways, thus displacing 900 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands of similar quality. Nonmotorized recreation use — day hiking, backpacking and rockhounding — would increase from 100 to 500 VDY with most of the increase from population growth and winter visitors.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 70,360 acres by closing 12.2 miles of vehicle way to motorized use.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

Enhanced Wilderness (Map 2-16)

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative for the Cactus Plain WSA would designate 65,330 acres as wilderness and return 5,030 acres to other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative in that no accommodation is made for the utility corridor along the western boundary.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 65,330 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because most the anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use and anticipated mining venture would be excluded.

Precluding the development within the wilderness of three mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 1,100 acres. The perception of naturalness and the availability of opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be sustained across 4,000 acres. Without wilderness designation, these lands would be impacted by mine excavations, the construction of 5.75 miles of mine road and other sights and sounds associated with mining.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on two miles of vehicle ways (2.4 acres) in wilderness would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 500 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes and trails would be available for foot and horseback travel only.

Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation that would be preserved by wilderness designation include skill-testing cross-country treks, primitive camping, nature study, and sightseeing for unique plant communities associated with the stabilized sand dunes.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 100% of the designated portion of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 65,330 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of exploration activities and the denial of three moderate mines (covering 1,100 acres).

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of three potential mines within the designated area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation by closing 20 miles of vehicle ways, thus displacing 750 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands of similar quality. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase more than 300% from 80 to 255 VDY with most of the increase from the New Parker townsite and winter visitors.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 65,330 acres by displacing 750 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the 5,030-acre portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining, motorized vehicle use, and urban development.

Two mining operations and their associated 0.75 mile of road construction would impair the natural character of 56 acres (areas with extensive and long-term surface disturbance). The visual and audible impacts of mining would extend outside the areas of actual surface disturbance. WSA lands next to access routes and around the mines would also be affected. A visitor's perception of naturalness would be lost or impaired over an area of 200 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Development of the Parker townsite would directly impact 20 acres with wider impacts on the naturalness/solitude of 50 acres.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate on areas subject to mining (56 acres — 7% of the nondesignated area) and motorized vehicle traffic (2.0 miles of vehicle ways — 24 acres — less than 1% of the nondesignated area). Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities elsewhere on the nondesignated parcels would be unchanged.

Conclusion: Adverse impacts to wilderness would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, two mines, motorized vehicle use and urban growth would impair wilderness values on 10% of the portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses. All other lands, totaling 7,200 acres, would remain undisturbed.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 5,030 acres of public land. There would be two mines developed in the northwestern portion of the WSA as a result.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would leave 5,030 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would not change the types of recreation uses on 5,030 acres of WSA. The 10.2 miles of vehicle ways and .75 mile of new roads would remain open to motorized recreation uses. The motorized recreation use would increase from 150 to 2,550 VDY, mostly because of the development of the new Parker townsite and winter visitors. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 20 to 45 VDY because of the development of the new Parker townsite and winter visitors.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation uses on 5,030 acres. Motorized use and nonmotorized use would increase primarily because of the development of the new Parker townsite.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-15)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 70,360 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Cactus Plain WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from five anticipated mining ventures, road construction, powerline development and motorized vehicle use.

Five mining operations and their associated 6.5 miles of road construction would impair the natural character of 1,165 acres. Presently, these areas have little evidence of recent mining and are reached by unmaintained and barely discernible vehicle trails or foot travel. Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 4,000 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction and maintenance of a 10-mile section of new powerline in the corridor that crosses the western portion of the WSA would impair the natural character of 25 acres—a result of power pole installation. Backhoes or other machinery would also cause surface disturbance from cross-country travel. The powerline would be noticeable to visitors and would lessen a visitor's perception of naturalness on 6,500 acres.

The cumulative impacts of mining, road construction, powerline construction and urban development on the WSA's naturalness are greater than the sum of the direct individual impacts described above. The existing and potential development activities in the WSA are concentrated in four areas: (1) three mines in the WSA's northwest area, (2) one powerline along the west side and (3) urban development in the southwest. The clustering developments in these areas intensifies their impact on the WSA's natural integrity—about 20% of the WSA experiences a loss of wilderness character from these cumulative effects. The lands in the central and eastern portion of the WSA would remain relatively unaffected by nondesignation because mineral and other developments are not anticipated in the area.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access would be the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunities. Hiking and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline — a result of road building, mining, urban development and powerline installation.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would also lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 20% of the WSA. Additionally, improved mine road access would permit vehicles to traverse or reach portions of the WSA presently infrequently or never visited by motor-dependent recreationists. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the back-country experience.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, powerline construction, urban development and mining would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 25% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, the WSA would remain open to mineral entry under the general mining laws. As a result, no mining developments would be denied.

It is estimated that five mines (covering 1,155 acres) would eventually be developed within the WSA.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mine within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 70,360 acres of WSA. The 12.2 miles of vehicle ways and 6.5 miles of new roads would remain open to motorized recreation uses. Because of improved access from the 6.5 miles of new mining roads, the Parker 400 ORV race and population growth, motorized recreation use would increase from 900 to 2,700 VDY and nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 100 to 300 VDY.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged under the *No Wilderness* alternative.

IMPACTS ON LAND USES

Because such actions would be permitted, the *No Wilderness* alternative would have no impact on proposals to transfer 3,325 acres to the State of Arizona and construct 10 miles of powerline in the western portion of the WSA.

Conclusion: Land use actions concerning land transfers and powerline corridors would not be impacted under the *No Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative

SWANSEA
(AZ-050-15A) — 41,690 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness
(Map 2-17A)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* for the Swansea WSA would designate 11,795 acres as wilderness and return 29,895 acres to other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative in that boundary adjustments would provide for motorized recreation access and development of high potential mineral areas on the north and south ends while ensuring wilderness protection for high value riparian areas along the Bill Williams River.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 11,795 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded.

The naturalness of the area would be enhanced by reestablishing riparian communities along the Bill Williams River. Visitors would also enjoy additional opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation because of vegetative screening and more attractive campsites. Temporary disturbances to solitude and naturalness would occur during tree planting efforts.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on one mile of vehicle ways (1.2 acres) in wilderness would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 400 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes, riverbottoms and trails would be available for foot and horseback travel.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 3.4% of the recommended area by preventing adverse impacts to solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation from motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 11,795 acres by closing one mile of vehicle ways and six miles of the Bill Williams River, thus displacing 408 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands. Nonmotorized recreation activities that would benefit from these actions include hiking and sightseeing.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by displacing 400 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would further protect 530 acres of riparian habitat by limiting conflicting uses along six miles of the river.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would protect 530 acres of riparian habitat.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness (29,895 acres) would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining, motorized vehicle use, realignment of the Parker 400 race course and utility corridor development.

Six mining operations and their associated 3.25 miles of road construction would impair the natural character of 919 acres (areas with extensive and long-term surface disturbance). The visual and audible impacts of mining would extend outside the areas of actual surface disturbance. WSA lands next to access routes and around the mines would also be affected. Visitors' perception of naturalness would be lost or impaired over an area of 10,000 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction of a new seven-mile natural gas pipeline segment would impair naturalness on 17.5 acres and affect visitors' perception of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation over 2,240 acres.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate on areas subject to mining (915 acres — 3% of the undesignated area) and motorized vehicle traffic (one mile of vehicle ways and 4.5 miles of mine roads — five acres). Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities elsewhere on the nondesignated parcels would be unchanged.

Conclusion: Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, the development of six mines, continuing motorized vehicle use, pipeline construction and road development would impair wilderness values on 41% of the undesignated area.

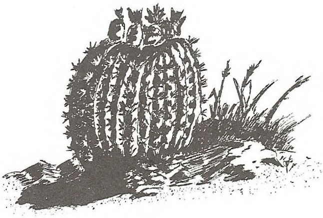
IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 29,895 acres of public land. As a result, there would be four exploration programs and six mines developed in the southwestern portion of the WSA.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of potential mines on 29,895 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation use on 29,895 acres of WSA, although motorized recreation use would increase from 100 to 700 VDY because of improved access from the 3.25 miles of new mining roads and the increased population. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 5 to 25 VDY because of horseback trail riding and increased population.



Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 29,895 acres of the WSA.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values on portions of the WSA would be disturbed by mineral development and motorized vehicle use.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of six mines would disturb the naturalness of the area in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-17B)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 41,690 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Swansea WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use and utility corridor development would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, six mines (on mining claims that had proven discoveries or on nonfederal minerals) would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding the development of a natural gas pipeline would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 17.5 acres. The perception of naturalness and the existing caliber and availability of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would be sustained across 2,240 acres.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 2% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

Because of valid existing rights, development of six mines is anticipated whether the area is designated wilderness or not. Mining and 3.24 miles of road construction would result in long-term loss or naturalness on 919 acres. The sights and sound of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, a visitor's perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 10,000 acres.

The naturalness of the area would be enhanced by reestablishing riparian communities along the Bill Williams River. Visitors would also enjoy additional opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation because of vegetative screening and more attractive campsites. Temporary disturbances to solitude and naturalness would occur during tree planting efforts.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 76% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation, pipeline development and an ORV race course realignment.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 41,690 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of some exploration programs and potential mining developments. However, six mines would continue to be developed within the designated area due to valid existing rights.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would prevent some exploration programs and mineral development while allowing development to continue on an anticipated six mines possessing valid existing rights.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing 20 miles of vehicle ways and 6.0 miles of the Bill Williams River, thus displacing 475 VDY of motorized recreation use. Nonmotorized recreation activities — hiking, horseback riding and sightseeing — on 41,690 acres within the area would benefit as a result.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation activities on 41,690 acres.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would provide further protection for 530 acres of riparian habitat by limiting use in the area and closing the river area to motorized use. Closing 20 miles of vehicle ways would allow the disturbed area to revegetate.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would protect 530 acres of riparian habitat and close 20 miles of vehicle ways which would revegetate over time.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-17B)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 41,690 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Swansea WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts.

Six mining operations and their associated 3.25 miles of road construction would impair the natural character of 919 acres. (Presently, these areas have evidence of mining and are reached by unmaintained and barely discernible vehicle trails.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 10,000 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

The naturalness of the area would be enhanced by reestablishing riparian communities along the Bill Williams River. Visitors would also enjoy additional opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation because of vegetative screening and more attractive campsites. Temporary disturbances to solitude and naturalness would occur during tree planting efforts.

Construction of a new seven-mile natural gas pipeline segment would impair the natural character of 17.5 acres — a result of surface disturbances, trenching and road construction. Access for backhoes or other machinery would also cause surface disturbance from cross-country travel. Although buried to reduce visual impacts, the pipeline right-of-way would be noticeable to visitors above the site, and would lessen a visitors' perception of naturalness on 2,240 acres.

The natural character of 1.5 acres and the perception of naturalness on 200 acres would be impaired by the development of a new Parker 400 race course alignment.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access would be the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunities. Hiking and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline — a result of road building, mining, pipeline construction and ORV race course development.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would also lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 25% of the WSA. Additionally, improved mine road access would permit vehicles to traverse or reach portions of the WSA presently infrequently or never visited by motor-dependent recreationists. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 30% of the WSA. The remaining 70% would not be greatly affected by motorized vehicle recreation, mining, road construction and pipeline development.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

EAST CACTUS PLAIN (AZ-050-17) — 13,735 Acres

Proposed Action/All Wilderness
(Map 2-18)

The *Proposed Action/All Wilderness* for the East Cactus Plain WSA would designate 13,735 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 13,735 acres of land. Wilderness values would benefit over the entire area because anticipated mining development and powerline construction would be excluded.

Precluding the development within the wilderness of one mine and two mineral exploration activities would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 51 acres. The perception of naturalness and the existing caliber and availability of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would be sustained across 600 acres. Without wilderness designation, these lands would otherwise be impacted by mine excavations, the construction of 0.5 miles of mine road and other sights and sounds associated with mining and mineral exploration.

Precluding the development of a new five-mile segment of an electric powerline would also protect the area's natural values and opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation over 25% of the unit.

Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation that would be preserved by wilderness designation include skill-testing cross-country treks, primitive camping, photography, and sightseeing for unique plant communities associated with the stabilized dunes.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation over the entire 13,735 acres of the WSA by precluding development of a small mine, two mineral exploration activities and a new electrical powerline.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 13,735 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of exploration activities and the denial of one small mine (covering 50 acres).

Conclusion: The All Wilderness alternative would prevent the development of one small mine within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 13,735 acres by maintaining the closure of the area to motorized recreation use. Nonmotorized recreation activities that would benefit from these actions include day hiking, sightseeing, overnight backpacking, wildlife observation and photography.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 13,735 acres by protecting primitive recreation opportunities.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Loss of mineral production would occur by preventing mineral development and exploration.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Mineral production would be foregone and wilderness values in the area would be protected over the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

Wilderness designation would impair development of mineral resources.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-18)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 13,735 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the East Cactus Plain WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation in certain areas would experience adverse impacts. The five miles of new powerline would disturb 125 acres along the eastern border and the mine and exploration would disturb 52 acres.

The sights and sounds of mining would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 25% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter the nine vehicles' sights and sounds, thus reducing the quality of the back country experience.

Construction and maintenance of the five miles of powerline in the 0.5 mile of utility corridor inside the WSA on its eastern border would impair naturalness on 12.5 acres. The powerline would also be visible within 30% of the WSA, impairing the appearance of naturalness and the quality of opportunities for solitude over the entire area.

Conclusion: Mining activities and a new powerline would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 30% of the WSA. The remaining 70% of the WSA would not be greatly affected by mining activities and powerline construction.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 13,735 acres of public land. As a result there would be two exploration programs and one mine developed.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent development of any potential mines within the 13,735 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use on 13,735 acres of WSA. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 100 to 200 VDY due to increased population and winter visitors.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation would not change under the *No Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources are impacted under this alternative.

BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS NORTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-18) — 415 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-19)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return 415 acres to other forms of multiple use management.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 30% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the back country experience.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, a loss or impairment of wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation because of motorized recreation use would result on 30% of the WSA. The remaining 70% of the WSA would not be greatly affected by motorized vehicle recreation.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

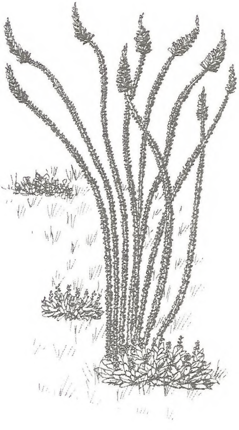
The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities, although motorized recreation would increase from 140 to 175 VDY — mostly small game hunting, motorized trail riding and rockhounding. Nonmotorized recreation would increase from 60 to 75 VDY — mostly day hiking and associated activities.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources would be impacted by the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness.*

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values on portions of the WSA would be disturbed by motorized vehicle use.



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

No significant change from present

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

No significant change from present

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-19)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 485 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Big Maria Mountains Northern Addition WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded on a two-mile vehicle way.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 30% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 100% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would close the 0.2 miles of vehicle way in the southwest corner of the WSA and thereby displace 45 VDY of motorized use. The closure of the vehicle way to motor vehicles would enhance nonmotorized recreation opportunities — mostly day hiking and associated activities.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing 0.2 miles of vehicle way.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

BIG MARIA MOUNTAINS SOUTHERN ADDITION
(AZ-050-19) — 1,420 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-20)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return 1,420 acres to other forms of multiple use management.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from motorized vehicle use.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 30% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the back country experience.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 35% of the WSA. The remaining 65% of the WSA would not be greatly affected by motorized vehicle recreation.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values on portions of the WSA would be disturbed by motorized vehicle use.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

No significant change from present

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

No significant change from present

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-20)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate all 1,420 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Big Maria Mountains Southern Addition WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for existing wilderness values.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 35% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 100% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle recreation.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would close 2.5 miles of vehicle ways and displace 140 VDY of motorized recreation in the WSA. Closing the area to motor vehicles would enhance nonmotorized recreation opportunities — mostly day hiking, photography and nature study.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing 2.5 miles of vehicle ways.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

Under the *All Wilderness* alternative, continuing disturbances of crucial bighorn sheep habitat on three acres (2.5 miles) of vehicle ways would be prevented by closing the vehicle ways and displacing 140 VDY of motorized use in the WSA. The closure would allow long-term natural revegetation on the three acres now disturbed, thus slightly improving the crucial bighorn sheep habitat in the WSA.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would allow for long-term improvement of three acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by the closure of 2.5 miles of vehicle ways, and would displace 140 VDY of motorized use.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

SOUTH TRIGO MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-23A) — 4,500 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-21)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return 4,500 acres to other forms of multiple use management.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the South Trigo Mountains WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from mining, road construction and motorized vehicle use.

Three mining operations and their associated 4.5 miles of road construction and two exploration programs would impair the natural character of 520 acres. (Presently, these areas have evidence of past mining activities and are reached by unmaintained and barely discernible vehicle trails.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 3,500 acres—surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

The existing and potential development activities in the WSA are concentrated in the north and eastern portion of the WSA. The clustering of developments in these areas intensifies their impact on the WSA's natural integrity—about one-half of the WSA experiences a loss of wilderness character due to these cumulative effects. The lands in the western and southern portion of the WSA would remain relatively unaffected by nondesignation because mineral developments are not anticipated in the area.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline within the portion of the WSA adversely affected by the development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features within portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access are the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunites. Hiking and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline where mines would be developed in the eastern and northern portion of the unit.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 78% of the WSA. Additionally, improved mine road access on 4.5 miles of new road would permit vehicles to traverse or reach portions of the WSA presently infrequently or never visited by motor-dependent recreationists. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the back country experience.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, mining and motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation on 78% of the WSA. The remaining 22% of the WSA would not be greatly affected by motorized vehicle recreation and mining.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative, the WSA would remain open to mineral entry under the general mining laws. It is estimated that three mining operations and two exploration programs covering 520 acres would occur within the WSA as a result.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of potential mines within the area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would allow the 1.5 miles of existing vehicle ways and the 4.5 miles of new access roads built for three mines to remain open to motorized recreation use. Increased road miles and population growth would cause motorized use to increase from 250 to 325 VDY — mostly trail riding, small game hunting, rockhounding and recreational mining. Nonmotorized recreation use (primarily horseback trail riding and day hiking) would also increase from 100 to 175 VDY as a result of improved access and population increases.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would remain relatively unchanged under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative. The existing 1.5 miles of vehicle ways and 4.5 miles of new mining roads would enhance motorized recreation use within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would allow three mines, continuing exploration and 4.5 miles of new roads disturbing 520 acres in the eastern portion of the WSA. The disturbance of 520 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat and the increased activities associated with mining and motorized recreation use would disturb bighorn sheep over a much larger area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and increased motorized recreation use which would disturb 520 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. The associated noise would disturb the sheep over 30% of the area.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Five hundred twenty acres of crucial wildlife habitat and the naturalness of the area would be disturbed by mining and increased motorized recreation use.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Mining and associated activities would impair the area's naturalness in the long term, but over time the disturbed areas would revegetate and return to natural condition.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined in the three new mines would be used up and lost to future uses.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-21)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 4,500 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire South Trigo Mountains WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use and some mining would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, two mines (on mining claims that had proven discoveries) would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Eliminating one mine and reducing the size of another would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on eight acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across 500 acres. Eliminating all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 10% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

Because of valid existing rights, development of one small mine and one large mine are anticipated whether the area is designated wilderness or not. Mining and 1.5 miles of road construction would result in long-term loss of naturalness on 505 acres. The sights and sounds of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 3,000 acres. Mining activity within the WSA would be concentrated in the eastern area.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 34% of the WSA by precluding most potential mining and other developments. Mining on existing claims would impair 66% of the WSA because of valid existing rights, regardless of wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 4,500 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of exploration and denial of one small mine. Two mines would be developed on claims with proven discoveries.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would allow two mines to be developed but deny two exploration programs and one small mine.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation by closing 1.5 miles of vehicle ways to motorized recreation use, thus displacing 250 VDY of motorized use. Nonmotorized visitor use would increase from 100 to 150 VDY, mostly from increased horseback riding.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would eliminate motorized recreation use within the WSA by closing 1.5 miles of vehicle ways. Opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use would be enhanced as a result.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would provide further protection for 4,500 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by denying two exploration programs, one mine and one mile of new road. However, 505 acres of crucial habitat would be disturbed by two mines and 3.5 miles of new mining roads.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would provided added protection for approximately 4,000 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by denying mineral exploration programs and development of one mine. However, 505 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by the development of two mines and related roads.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

TRIGO MOUNTAINS
(AZ-050-23B) — 36,870 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness
(Map 2-22)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* for the Trigo Mountain WSA would designate 29,095 acres as wilderness and 7,775 acres for other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative in that the northern boundary was adjusted to allow for development of part of the Trigo placer mineral deposits, the western boundary was adjusted to remove areas of lower wilderness quality which haye been impacted by past vehicle and human activity, and the southeast boundary was changed to allow for development of a highly mineralized area with proven production capability.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Partial Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 29,095 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because one-half the anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use and an anticipated mining venture would be excluded. Four mines, on mining claims with valid existing rights, would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values — however, this use would occur in any event.

Precluding the development within the wilderness of three small mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 105 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be sustained across 3,000 acres.

The natural character of three acres and the perception of naturalness on 90 acres would be impaired by the development of two wildlife water catchments.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on 11 miles of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 3,520 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes and trails would be available for foot and horseback travel only.

Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation that would be preserved by a wilderness designation include skill-testing cross-country treks, excellent horseback possibilities, and sightseeing for unique plant communities.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 100% of the designated portion of the WSA, preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 29,095 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would result in the denial of three placer gold mines and two exploration programs covering 208 acres.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of three placer mines within the designated area, which would impair regional gold production.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would close 11 miles of vehicle ways, displacing 320 VDY of motorized recreation use to the undesignated area. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 240 to 350 VDY with horseback trail riding comprising most of the increase because of the development of three horsecamps outside the area improving equestrian access.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by displacing 320 VDY of motorized recreation use to the undesignated portion of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would further protect 29,095 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mining and exploration in the area. Closing 11 miles of vehicle ways would allow the disturbed area to revegetate, thus allowing 13.2 acres of wildlife to improve.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would protect 29,095 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat and close 11 miles of vehicle ways (which would revegetate over time), thus improving the wildlife habitat.

IMPACTS ON BURRO MANAGEMENT

Because of the large size of the proposed wilderness, some burros may not be able to be driven out to the edge of the wilderness where vehicles and traps would be placed. Consequently, roundups may not be as effective and the vegetation could suffer because of high burro numbers.

Conclusion: Restrictions in the use of equipment could cause increased capture costs and less capture efficiency, resulting in a higher burro population.

No other resources would be impacted in the designated portion.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the 7,755-acre portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining and motorized vehicle use. In addition, two apron catchments for wildlife would be installed in the nondesignated area; these facilities would not affect the natural character of this area.

Four mining operations and their associated three miles of road construction and three exploration programs would impair the natural character of 110.5 acres (areas with extensive and long-term surface disturbance). The visual and audible impacts of mining would extend outside the areas of actual surface disturbance. WSA lands next to access routes and around the mines would also be affected. Visitors' perception of naturalness would be lost or impaired over an area of 1,200 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate on areas subject to mining (1,200 acres — 15% of the nondesignated area) and motorized vehicle traffic (14 miles of vehicle ways: 17 acres — 0.2% of the nondesignated area).

Conclusion: On the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness, four mines, exploration programs and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on 15% of the nondesignated area. All other lands, totaling 6,575 acres, would remain undisturbed.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 7,775 acres of public land. As a result, there would be exploration programs and four mines developed in the southeastern portion of the WSA.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 7,775 acres of public land open to mineral development.

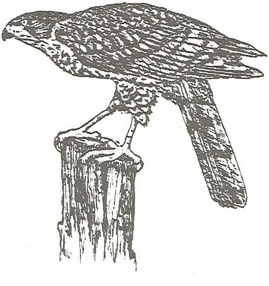
IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change the types of recreation uses on 7,775 acres of WSA. The 14 miles of vehicle ways and three miles of new roads would remain open to motorized recreation uses. The motorized recreation use would increase from 320 to 550 VDY due to improved access from the three miles of new mining roads and the two horsecamps. Nonmotorized recreation use would increase from 100 to 150 VDY due to horseback trail riding.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change the types of recreation opportunities on 7,755 acres. Motorized use would increase because of an additional three miles of new roads. Nonmotorized use would increase primarily because of the development of two horsecamps.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and road development to disturb 105 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. The increased mining and motorized recreation use would disturb the bighorn sheep, causing some of them to move to less favorable habitat where survival would be threatened.



Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and motorized recreation uses to disturb crucial bighorn sheep habitat.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by mining and motorized recreation use. Wilderness values would not be protected on 7,775 acres returned to other resource uses.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of four mines would disturb the naturalness of the area over the long term. Wilderness values would be lost on areas developed for mineral production.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use, and wilderness values would be lost on areas developed for mineral production.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-23)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate all 36,870 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Trigo Mountains WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use and some mining would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, four mines (on mining claims that had proven discoveries or on nonfederal minerals) would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding the development of three mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 105 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across 2,600 acres.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 16% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

The natural character of three acres and the perception of naturalness on 90 acres would be impaired by the development of two wildlife water catchments.

Because of valid existing rights, development of four mines is anticipated whether the area is designated wilderness or not. Mining and three miles of road construction would result in long-term loss of naturalness on 105 acres. The sights and sound of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, a visitor's perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 2,600 acres.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 93% of the WSA by precluding most potential mining and other development. Mining on existing claims would impair 7% of the WSA because of valid existing rights, regardless of wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *All Wilderness* alternative would withdraw 36,870 acres from mineral entry under the mining laws, subject to valid existing rights. There are 19,642 acres of high and 16,192 acres of moderate mineral potential favorable for copper, gold, silver and manganese. Three placer mines and one exploration program would be denied in the northeastern portion. One exploration program would be denied in the northcentral portion. Four mines in the southeastern portion would be developed on claims with proven discoveries and three exploration programs would be denied.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would deny three exploration programs and three mines in the northeastern portion of the WSA. Four mines would be developed in the southeastern portion of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would close the 2.5 miles of existing vehicle ways, thus eliminating 320 VDY of motorized recreation use from the WSA. These VDY would be lost due to lack of similar available recreation opportunities nearby.

Nonmotorized recreation use, primarily day hiking and day-long horseback trail rides, would increase from 480 to 700 VDY because of increased population growth and improved access from equestrian camps. The elimination of vehicle access along Clip Wash within the designated area would curtail or eliminate the overnight horseback trail rides depending on the use of this camping area for resting and watering horses. Currently, Clip Wash camping requires the haulage of water by motor vehicles, and vehicle access would be prohibited, thus denying the use of the area for watering horses.

Conclusion: Under the *All Wilderness* alternative, motorized recreation use that is presently in the area would be eliminated by the closure of 25 miles of vehicle ways. However, opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use of the area would generally be enhanced by these closures.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would allow four mines to be developed in the southeastern portion of the WSA disturbing 105 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. The disturbance from mining and associated activities would cause the sheep to move to less favorable habitat, thus possibly causing the loss of animals.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would allow mining to disturb 105 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

Enhanced Wilderness (Map 2-24)

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative for the Trigo Mountains WSA would designate 34,240 acres as wilderness and would not designate 2,630 acres. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative in that the southeast boundary was adjusted to allow for developing a highly mineralized area.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 34,240 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because most anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use and three anticipated mining ventures would be excluded. Four mines, on mining claims with valid existing rights, would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values — however, the use would occur in any event.

Precluding the development within the wilderness of three small mines would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness of 105 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be sustained across 3,000 acres.

The natural character of three acres and the perception of naturalness on 90 acres would be impaired by the development of two wildlife water catchments.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on 17 miles of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on 4,000 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes and trails would be available for only foot and horseback travel.

Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation that would be preserved by wilderness designation include skill-testing cross country treks, excellent horseback possibilities and sightseeing for unique plant communities.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 100% of the designated portion of the WSA, preventing adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation from mining developments and motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 34,240 acres of public land from entry under the *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would result in the denial of three placer gold mines and two exploration programs covering 208 acres.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of three placer mines within the designated area, which would impair regional gold production.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would close 17 miles of vehicle ways, thus eliminating 240 VDY of motorized use in the portion designated as wilderness. While comparable opportunities are not available nearby, the use would move to public lands not designated as wilderness thus ensuring the continued availability of ORV recreation in the region.

Nonmotorized use would increase from 320 to 550 VDY — mostly horseback trail riding because of the development of two horsecamps in the area not designated wilderness. The remaining use would be day hiking, backpacking and limited rockhounding.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would move 240 VDY of motorized use to the undesignated portion of the WSA. Opportunities for nonmotorized use — horseback trail riding, day hiking, backpacking and limited rockhounding — would be enhanced as a result.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would further protect 34,240 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by preventing surface disturbances from mining and exploration in the area. Closing 11 miles of vehicle ways would allow the disturbed area to revegetate, thus allowing 13.2 acres of wildlife to improve.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would protect 34,240 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat and close 11 miles of vehicle ways (which would revegetate over time), thus improving the wildlife habitat.

IMPACTS ON BURRO MANAGEMENT

Because of the large size of the proposed wilderness, some burros may not be able to be driven out to the edge of the wilderness where vehicles and traps would be placed. Consequently, roundups may not be as effective and the vegetation could suffer because of high burro numbers.

Conclusion: Restrictions in the use of equipment could cause increased capture costs and less capture efficiency resulting in a higher burro population.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness (2,630 acres) would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining and motorized vehicle use. In addition, two apron catchments for wildlife would be installed in the nondesignated area; these facilities would not affect the natural character of this area.

Four mining operations and their associated three miles of road construction and three exploration programs would impair the natural character of 110.5 acres (areas with extensive and long-term surface disturbance). Visitors' perception of naturalness would be essentially lost or impaired over an area of 1,200 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate on areas subject to mining (1,200 acres — 46% of the nondesignated area), motorized vehicle traffic (17 miles of vehicle ways — 21 acres) — .8% of the nondesignated area), and the 5-acre horseback camp.

Conclusion: On the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness, four mines and exploration programs and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on 46% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 2,630 acres of public land. As a result, there would be exploration programs and four mines developed in the southeastern portion of the WSA.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 2,630 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would leave eight miles of vehicle ways in the undesignated portion of the Trigo Mountains WSA open to motorized use, thus not changing the types of recreation use in the area. The motorized use would increase from 80 to 500 VDY because of increased horseback trail riding from the development of two horsecamps. Other uses would be small game hunting, trail riding and rockhounding. Nonmotorized uses would decrease from 160 to 150 VDY because of the increase of motorized use which disturbs the solitude of the visitor.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would not change the types of recreation opportunities but would allow motorized use to increase by 525% because of increased use of the designated area by horseback trail riding. Nonmotorized use would decrease by 6% because of increased loss of solitude.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and road development to disturb 153,154 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. The increased mining and motorized recreation use would disturb the bighorn sheep, causing some of them to move to less favorable habitat where survival would be threatened.

Conclusion: The *Enhanced Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and motorized recreation uses to disturb crucial bighorn sheep habitat.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-23)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would release 36,870 acres to other forms of multiple use management.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from mining, road construction, wildlife water developments, motorized vehicle use, and equestrian camp construction.

Seven mining operations and their associated seven miles of road construction would impair the natural character of 322.5 acres. (Presently, these areas have no evidence of recent mining and are reached by unmaintained and barely discernible vehicle trails.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 5,600 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction of three equestrian camps would impair the natural character of 15 acres and disturb opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation over a larger area of 100 acres.

Construction of two proposed rainwater catchments in the WSA would impair the natural character of three acres — a result of apron and fence construction and storage tank/pipeline installation. Access of backhoes or other machinery would also cause surface disturbance from cross country travel. Although camouflaged to reduce visual impacts, the catchments would be noticeable to visitors above the site, and would lessen a visitor's perception of naturalness on 240 acres.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access would be the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunities. Hiking, and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline around the southeast portion — a result of road building and mining.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would also lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities along 25 miles of vehicle ways (5% of the WSA). Additionally, six miles of improved mine road access would permit vehicles to traverse or reach portions of the WSA presently infrequently or never visited by motor-dependent recreationists. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the back country experience.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities would occur on 20% of the WSA. The cumulative impact of all anticipated development activity and motorized vehicle use would result in the deterioration of wilderness values across 25% of the WSA. The remaining three-quarters of the WSA would not be greatly affected by development.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

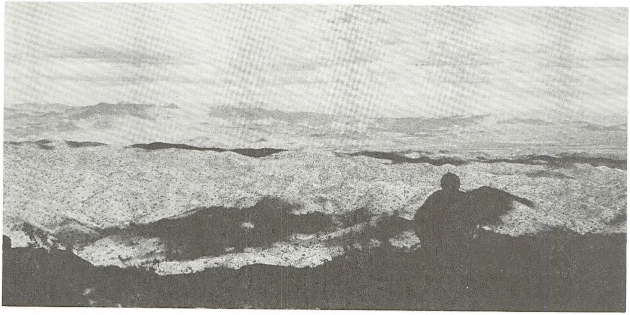
The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow 36,870 acres of public land to remain open to mineral entry under the mining laws. The area includes 19,642 acres of high and 16,192 acres of moderate mineral potential favorable for copper, gold, silver and manganese.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow exploration and mineral development to proceed.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow 25 miles of vehicle ways and six miles of new mining roads to remain open to motorized use. Motorized use would increase from 320 to 585 VDY because of six additional miles of new roads would increase motorized rereation opportunities and increased population growth would increase demand. Nonmotorized use would increase 480 to 715 VDY because of population growth and improved access provided by three equestrian camps which would facilitate increased horseback trail riding and other nonmotorized use.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not affect the types of recreation opportunities available in the unit. Population growth and improved access would lead to increased motorized and nonmotorized use.



IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow 25 miles (30 acres) of vehicle ways and six miles (9.0 acres) of new roads to remain open. The seven mines in the area would disturb 316 acres. These actions would degrade 316 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat, thus causing the bighorn sheep to move to less favorable habitat and possibly causing loss of populations.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would allow the crucial bighorn sheep habitat to be degraded, thus causing bighorn sheep to leave the area to less favorable habitat.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

KOFA UNIT 3 SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-31) — 3,400 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-25)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return 3,400 acres to other resources uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The WSA's wilderness values would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation would be impaired by motorized vehicle use and water catchment maintenance.

Opportunities for solitude would be impaired by the continuing maintenance of a water catchment, including filling operations. Solitude opportunities would be occasionally diminished on 120 acres surrounding the development by the sights and sounds of vehicles.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would also decline on the WSA areas adversely affected by water catchment maintenance.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use (545 VDY) would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 40% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the back country experience.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impact to wilderness values. As a result, anticipated water catchment maintenance and motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation across 45% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

Opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities in the Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition WSA would remain unchanged under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would not change under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation would be impaired over 45% of the area.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

No wilderness values within the WSA would be impaired in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

None.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-25)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 3,400 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative, the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Kofa Unit 3 Southern Addition WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for wilderness values on 3,400 acres. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 40% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation on 120 acres would benefit from precluding motorized vehicle access for maintenance of a wildlife water catchment.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation across 40% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing two miles of vehicle ways, thus eliminating 285 VDY of motorized use from the WSA.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing two miles of vehicle ways and eliminating motorized use from the area.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

KOFA UNIT 4 NORTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-33) — 1,900 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-26)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* for the Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition would designate 1,380 acres as wilderness and return 520 acres to other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative in that the northern and western boundaries were adjusted to exclude an inferred zeolite mineral deposit, to provide for the utility corridor in the RMP and to follow distinct geographical features readily identifiable to the visitor.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 1,380 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use on .5 mile of vehicle way (one acre) in the wilderness would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 150 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes, riverbottoms and trails would be available for foot and horseback travel only. Wilderness designation would also maintain the perception of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would maintain wilderness values on 73% of the WSA by preventing adverse impacts to solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation from motorized vehicle use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 1,380 acres from mineral entry under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not affect mineral resource development, as no mines or exploration programs are projected in the designated area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any potential mineral resource development within the designated area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 1,380 acres by closing 0.4 mile of vehicle way and displacing 110 VDY of motorized use. Nonmotorized recreation activities that would benefit form these actions include horseback riding, day hiking, sightseeing, overnight backpacking, wildlife observation and photography.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance the opportunities for nonmotorized use on 1,380 acres by displacing motorized use in the area. Nonmotorized use would increase 400% because of increased visitor use.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would further protect habitat by closing 0.4 mile (0.85 acre) of vehicle way.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow for a slight enhancement of the wildlife habitat.

Area recommended for other resource uses.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the 520-acre portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining, powerline construction and maintenance, and motorized vehicle use.

One future mining operation and the associated 1.0 mile of road construction would impair the natural character of 50 acres (areas with extensive and long-term surface disturbance). Visitors' perception of naturalness would also be lost or impaired over an area of 520 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction and maintenance of a two-mile segment of an electrical transmission line would disturb naturalness on five acres. Since the transmission line would overlap mining disturbances, further impairment to solitude and primitive recreation would not occur.

Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate on areas subject to mining and motorized vehicle traffic (450 acres — 86% of the nondesignated area). The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use on these areas would lessen the solitude and primitive recreation opportunities over a larger area of 1,000 acres.

Conclusion: Adverse impacts to wilderness values would not be prevented on the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness. Consequently, mining, an electrical transmission line and motorized vehicle use would impair wilderness values on 86% of the designated area.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 520 acres of public land. As a result, there would be an exploration program and development of a zeolite mine.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the 520 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation use on 520 acres of WSA. Motorized use would increase from 40 to 50 VDY because of the upgrading of 0.1 mile of an existing vehicle way and 0.9 mile of an existing trail.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not significantly change the opportunities for recreation use on 520 acres of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mining interests to degrade 50 acres and upgrade one mile of road (1.2 acres), thus disturbing 51.2 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mining and road upgrading to disturb 10% of the crucial bighorn sheep habitat.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values on 86% of the WSA would be disturbed by mineral development and motorized vehicle use.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of one mine would disturb the naturalness of the area over the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use. Wilderness values would be impaired on 53.2 acres developed for minerals.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-27)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 1,900 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, one mine (on mining claims that had proven discoveries) would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding all motorized recreation use except mine access would increase the existing wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear vehicle users in the 16% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

Because of valid existing rights, development of one mine is anticipated whether the area is designated wilderness or not. Mining and one mile of road construction would result in long-term loss of naturalness on 50 acres. The sights and sounds of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 450 acres.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation across 16% of the WSA by precluding most motorized recreation use.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 1,900 acres from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would curtail exploration activities, including 520 acres of high mineral potential for zeolite. A surface mine for zeolite would be developed in the southern portion of the area.

Conclusion: 1,900 acres would be withdrawn from mineral entry, subject to valid existing rights and a surface zeolite mine would be developed.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation by closing the 0.5 mile of vehicle way and eliminate 140 VDY of motorized use. Nonmotorized recreation use — day hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and rockhounding — on 1,850 acres within the area would benefit as a result.

Conclusion: The All Wilderness alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized use on 1,850 acres by reducing motorized recreation use.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would allow a mine and upgraded road to disturb 50 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. The disturbed animals would move to less favorable areas.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would protect crucial bighorn sheep habitat, except for disturbances from a mine on claims with valid existing rights.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-27)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 1,900 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from mining, road construction and motorized vehicle use.

One mining operation and its associated one mile of road construction and exploration program would impair the natural character of 53.2 acres. (Presently, these areas have evidence of mining and are reached by unmaintained and clearly discernible vehicle trails visible from State Highway 95.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 450 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction and maintenance of a two-mile segment of an electrical transmission line would disturb naturalness on five acres. Since the transmission line would overlap mining disturbances, further impairment to solitude and primitive recreation would not occur.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access are the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunities. Hiking and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline in the western and central portions of the unit — a result of road building and mining.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 16% of the WSA. Additionally, improved mine road access would permit vehicles to traverse or reach portions of the WSA presently infrequently or never visited by motor-dependent recreationists. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, road construction and water catchments would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 86% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, the WSA would remain open to mineral entry under the general mining laws.

It is estimated there would be one zeolite mine developed in the southwestern portion of the WSA and one exploration program (covering 53.2 acres) would occur.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not change the existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities in the Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition WSA.

Conclusion: The opportunities for recreation use would remain unchanged under the *No Wilderness* alternative.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not preclude any mining and road development on 50 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. Consequently, mining and motorized recreation use would disturb bighorn sheep in this area.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not protect 50 acres of bighorn sheep habitat from disturbances caused by mineral developments.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

KOFA UNIT 4 SOUTHERN ADDITION (AZ-050-34) — 11,220 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-28)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return 11,220 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The WSA's wilderness values would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation would be impaired by a wildlife water catchment and motorized vehicle use.

Construction and maintenance of a proposed rainwater catchment in the center of the WSA would impair the natural character of three acres — a result of apron and fence construction and storage tank/pipeline installation. Access for backhoes and other machinery would also cause surface disturbance from cross-country travel. Although camouflaged to reduce visual impacts, the catchment would be noticeable to visitors above the site, and would lessen visitors' perception of naturalness on 120 acres.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use on seven miles of vehicle ways would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 20% of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreationists in these areas would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, water catchment construction and motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 20% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities on 11,220 acres of the WSA.

The seven miles of existing vehicle ways would remain open allowing motorized recreation to increase to 300 VDY because of increased demand from population and winter visitor increases. While motorized recreation would not be impaired, nonmotorized recreationists would experience increased contact with motorized recreationists.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

In the long term, the area's naturalness would be impaired by construction and maintenance of a water catchment.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not change opportunities for recreation use in the area.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values of solitude, naturalness and primitive recreation would be impaired over 20% of the unit.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The wilderness values of solitude, naturalness and primitive recreation would be impaired in the area of water catchment construction and maintenance.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-28)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 11,220 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Designation of the Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition WSA as wilderness would provide long-term legislative protection for wilderness values on 11,220 acres. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded.

Eliminating motorized recreation use on seven miles of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation — sights and sounds from the present 140 VDY of motorized recreation use would no longer disturb hikers and sightseers in the area.

The natural character of two acres and the perception of naturalness on 120 acres would be impaired by construction and maintenance of an apron wildlife water catchment in the center of the unit.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 99% of the WSA by precluding motorized recreation use. A wildlife water catchment would impair 1% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation by closing seven miles of vehicle ways, thus displacing 140 VDY of motorized recreation use to public lands nearby.

Nonmotorized recreationists would receive an enhanced recreation experience by the elimination of chances to contact motorized equipment in the WSA.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 11,220 acres by displacing 140 VDY of motorized use to nearby public lands.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

LITTLE PICACHO PEAK ADDITION (AZ-050-35) — 2,915 Acres

Proposed Action/No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-29)

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would return 2,915 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The WSA's wilderness values would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from mining, road construction, runoff structures and motorized vehicle use.

Mining exploration programs would impair the natural character of two acres, and two mining operations and their associated 3.5 miles of road construction would impair the natural character of 105 acres. (Presently, these areas show no evidence of mining and are reached by foot travel only.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over the entire WSA — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction of two proposed runoff structures in the eastern portion of the WSA would impair the natural character of three acres — a result of dam construction. Access for backhoes or other machinery would also cause surface disturbance from cross-country travel. Although camouflaged to reduce visual impacts, these structures would be noticeable to visitors above the site, and would lessen visitors' perception of naturalness on 10 acres.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by the proposed developments. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access are the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunities. Hiking and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline throughout the unit — a result of road building, mining and wildlife structures installation.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use and mining would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 100% of the WSA. Additionally, improved mine road access would permit vehicles to traverse or reach portions of the WSA presently infrequently or never visited by motor-dependent recreationists. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, mining, road construction, wildlife developments and motorized vehicle use would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities in 100% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative, the WSA would remain open to mineral entry under the general mining laws.

Returning the WSA to other than wilderness use would allow exploration and the development of two small mines.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not change existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities in the Little Picacho Peak Addition WSA.

Recreation use would increase from 200 to 500 VDY. This increase would consist almost entirely of nonmotorized recreational pursuits because the WSA the WSA is mostly inaccessible to vehicles.

Conclusion: Opportunities for recreation use would not change under the *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not preclude any mining development on 2,915 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. Consequently, mining exploration programs and the development of three mines and necessary roads would disturb about 107 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat within the area.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/No Wilderness* alternative would not protect 2,915 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments.

No other resources are impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Wilderness values on the entire WSA would be disturbed by mining, road construction, water catchments, and motorized recreation.

Crucial bighorn sheep habitat on 2,915 acres would be disturbed by mining developments.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Mining and road development would disturb naturalness on 107 acres in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use. Wilderness values would be impaired on 107 acres developed for minerals.

All Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-29)

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 2,915 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Little Picacho Peak Addition WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because anticipated road construction, motorized vehicle use and most mining would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, one mine (on mining claims that had proven discoveries or on nonfederal minerals) would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding the development of one mine and access road would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness of 51 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities sustained across 620 acres.

Eliminating all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 21% of the WSA.

The natural character of three acres and the perception of naturalness on five acres would be preserved by precluding the development of three runoff structures.

Because of valid existing rights, development of one mine would take place whether the area is designated wilderness or not. Mining and 0.5 mile of road construction would result in long-term loss of naturalness on 50 acres. The sights and sounds of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 620 acres.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 22% of the WSA by precluding one mine and three other developments. Mining on existing claims would impair 21% of the WSA because of valid existing rights.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 2,915 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *All Wilderness* alternative would result in curtailment of exploration activities and the denial of one moderate mine (covering 50 acres).

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would prevent the development of one potential mine within the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by displacing ten VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 2,915 acres.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

MUGGINS MOUNTAINS (AZ-050-53A) — 14,455 Acres

Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness

(Map 2-30)

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative for the Muggins Mountains WSA would designate 8,855 acres as wilderness and return 5,600 acres to other resource uses. This alternative differs from the *All Wilderness* alternative by making the following adjustments: 1) The northwestern boundary was redrawn along a natural geographic feature; 2) The Muggins Wash vehicle way was cherry-stemmed to allow continued vehicle access to this popular recreation and mining area; and 3) the eastern boundary was changed to exclude uranium deposits and allow development of these mineral resources.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

Area proposed for wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would provide long-term legislative protection to wilderness values on 8,855 acres of the WSA. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because motorized vehicle use would be excluded.

The natural character of one acre and the perception of naturalness on 10 acres would be impaired by developing one wildlife water catchment in the western portion of the WSA. These lands would be subject to surface disturbance from construction and to helicopter travel to bring in construction materials. Catchment location would limit the viewing distance, impairing naturalness over a small area.

Precluding all motorized recreation use on .5 mile (.5 acre) of vehicle ways would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users on the 50 acres of the WSA presently subject to the sights and sounds of motorized vehicles. All washes, river bottoms and trails would be available for only foot and horseback travel.

Precluding 5.5 miles of powerline would preserve the naturalness on 13.75 acres and protect opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation over 1,000 acres.

Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation that would be preserved by wilderness designation include skill-testing cross-country treks, excellent horseback possibilities and sightseeing. Unique scenic, wildlife, plant and cultural wilderness attributes would also be maintained in their current natural state.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would prevent adverse impacts to naturalness, solitude, and primitive and unconfined recreation on 15% of the designated area by prohibiting motorized recreation on the lands designated wilderness and prohibiting powerline construction.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Withdrawal of 8,855 acres of public land from mineral entry under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would curtail some mineral exploration activities.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would deny mineral exploration on 8,855 acres in the designated area.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 8,855 acres by closing 0.5 mile of vehicle ways and displacing 300 VDY of motorized recreation use to nondesignated portions of the WSA. Nonmotorized recreation activities that would benefit from these actions include horseback riding, day hiking, sightseeing, overnight backpacking, wildlife observation and photography.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 8,855 acres by displacing 400 VDY of motorized recreation use to nearby public lands.

IMPACTS TO WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would further protect 8,855 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. Closing 0.5 miles of vehicle ways would allow the disturbed area to revegetate, improving wildlife habitation on 0.6 acres.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would protect 8,855 acres of bighorn sheep crucial habitat by closing 0.5 miles of vehicle ways.

No other resources would be impacted in the designated area.

Area recommended for uses other than wilderness.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness values on the 5,600-acre portion of the WSA returned to other resource uses would not receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values would experience adverse impacts from mining, motorized vehicle use, and one water development for wildlife.

Two mining operations, their associated three miles of road construction, exploration programs and water catchment construction would impair the natural character of 358 acres. Visitors' perception of naturalness would be lost or impaired over an area of 4,500 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

A new 3.5-mile powerline would impair naturalness on 8.75 acres and impair solitude and naturalness over 1,500 adjacent acres. Solitude and primitive recreation opportunities would also deteriorate on areas subject to mining (4,500 acres — 80% of the nondesignated area), motorized vehicle traffic (9 acres — less than 1% of the nondesignated area) and water catchment construction (3 acres).

Conclusion: On the portion of the WSA not designated wilderness, two mines, motorized vehicle use, powerline construction and a water catchment would impair wilderness values on 80% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would allow mineral entry on 5,600 acres of public land. As a result, there would be two exploration programs and two mines developed in the southeastern portion of the WSA.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not prevent the development of any potential mines within 5,600 acres of public land open to mineral development.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not change the existing opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation uses on 8,555 acres of WSA, although motorized recreation use levels would increase slightly due to displacement from the wilderness portion of the area. Motorized and nonmotorized recreation use would both increase 200% because of improved access.

Conclusion: The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not impact opportunities for recreation uses in the area.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative would not preclude mining and road development on 350 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat. As a result, increased mining and motorized recreation use in the area would adversely impact the bighorn sheep, causing some of them to move to less favorable habitat.

Conclusion: Crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be adversely impacted under the *Proposed Action/Partial Wilderness* alternative.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.

ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be disturbed by mining and motorized recreation use.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The development of two mines would disturb the naturalness of the area in the long term.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

The minerals mined would be used up and lost to future use. Wilderness values would be impaired on 103 acres developed for minerals.

All Wilderness Alternative

The *All Wilderness* alternative would designate 14,455 acres as wilderness.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

Wilderness designation of the entire Muggins Mountains WSA would provide long-term legislative protection for its wilderness values. Wilderness values would benefit in certain areas because powerline construction and maintenance and motorized vehicle use would be excluded. In spite of wilderness management objectives, two mines (on mining claims that had proven discoveries) would be developed within the wilderness in a manner affecting wilderness values.

Precluding nine miles of a powerline would maintain the existing wilderness value of naturalness on 22.5 acres. Moreover, the perception of naturalness would be preserved and the quality and solitude and primitive recreation over 2,500 acres.

Precluding all motorized recreation use would benefit the wilderness values of solitude and primitive recreation. Wilderness visitors would not encounter or hear motorized users in the 15% of the WSA presently affected by motorized use.

The natural character of four acres and the perception of naturalness would be impaired by water catchment development for wildlife. Installed under strict wilderness management constraints, however, the facilities would blend in their surroundings and be noticeable, upon direct encounter, only over 100 acres instead of on the 250 acres surrounding the waters. There would be some brief losses during construction and periodic maintenance.

Because of valid existing rights, development of two mines is anticipated whether the area is designated wilderness or not. Mining and three miles of road construction would result in long-term loss of naturalness on 103 acres. The sights and sounds of mining and traffic would be visible and audible from surrounding areas; thus, visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of solitude opportunities would be lost or impaired on 4,500 acres.

Conclusion: Wilderness designation under the *All Wilderness* alternative would maintain the wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive recreation across 85% of the WSA by precluding motorized vehicle use. Mining on existing claims would impair 9% of the WSA because of valid existing rights. These impacts would occur regardless of wilderness designation.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The *All Wilderness* alternative would withdraw 14,455 acres of public land from mineral entry under the mining laws subject to valid existing rights.

Two mines would be developed on claims with valid existing rights in the designated area.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would deny mineral development in the designated area except for two mines on claims with proven discoveries.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use by closing the eight miles of vehicle ways, thus displacing 430 VDY of motorized use.

Nonmotorized recreation activities — day hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and rockhounding — would increase by 76% on the 14,455 acres within the area.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would enhance opportunities for nonmotorized recreation use on 14,455 acres by closing eight miles of vehicle ways and displacing 430 VDY of motorized recreation use.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *All Wilderness* alternative would provide further protection for 14,455 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat by precluding the development of mining and exploration in the area. Closing 8 miles of vehicle ways would allow 9.6 acres of wildlife to improve. Two mines would disturb 103 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat, displacing the sheep to less favorable habitat.

Conclusion: The *All Wilderness* alternative would protect 14,455 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat and close 8 miles of vehicle ways.

No other resources would be impacted under this alternative.

No Wilderness Alternative (Map 2-31)

The *No Wilderness* alternative would return 14,455 acres to other resource uses.

Under this alternative the following environmental consequences are anticipated.

IMPACTS ON WILDERNESS VALUES

None of the Muggins Mountains WSA's wilderness values would receive the legislative protection provided by wilderness designation. Over the long term, wilderness values in certain areas would experience adverse impacts from mining, road construction, wildlife water developments and motorized vehicle use.

Two mining operations and their associated three miles of road construction and exploration programs would impair the natural character on 358 acres. (Presently, these areas have evidence of mining prospects and are reached by foot travel only.) Visitors' perception of naturalness and the quality of their solitude opportunities would be essentially lost or impaired over a larger area of 4,500 acres — surrounding lands where visitors would be directly subject to the sights and sounds of mining, construction, roads and traffic.

Construction of two rainwater catchments in the rugged southern portion of the WSA would impair the natural character of four acres — a result of apron and fence construction and storage tank/pipeline installation. Access for backhoes or other machinery would also cause surface disturbance from cross-country travel. Although camouflaged to reduce visual impacts, the catchments would be noticeable to visitors above the site and would lessen a visitor's perception of the naturalness on 250 acres.

The existing quality and array of primitive recreation opportunities would decline on WSA areas adversely affected by development. The loss of naturalness and scenic features in portions of the WSA, the sights and sounds of development and vastly improved vehicular access are the primary factors causing the loss or deterioration of primitive recreation opportunities. Hiking and sightseeing opportunities would experience a considerable decline around the two mines — a result of road building and mining.

The sights and sounds of motorized recreation use would lessen the quality of solitude and primitive recreation opportunities across 15% of the WSA. Additionally, improved mine road access would permit vehicles to traverse or reach portions of the WSA presently infrequently or never visited by motor-dependent recreationists. Nonmotorized recreationists would be likely to encounter vehicles, thus reducing the quality of the backcountry experience.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent any adverse impacts to wilderness values. As a result, motorized vehicle use, mining, road construction and water catchments would cause a loss or impairment of wilderness values of naturalness, solitude and primitive opportunities on 31% of the WSA.

IMPACTS ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, the WSA would have 14,455 acres of public land open to mineral entry under the mining laws.

It is estimated that two mines (covering 353 acres) would eventually be developed within the WSA.

Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not prevent mineral development in the WSA.

IMPACTS ON RECREATION USE

Under the *No Wilderness* alternative, eight miles of vehicle ways would remain open to motorized recreation use. Consequently, opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities within the area would not change.

Motorized and nonmotorized recreation uses in the Muggins Mountains WSA would increase by 62% and 130%, respectively.

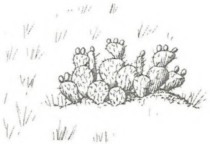
Conclusion: Opportunities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation uses in the WSA would remain unchanged under the *No Wilderness* alternative.

IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE VALUES

The *No Wilderness* alternative would not preclude mining development on 8,855 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat from mineral entry and development and leave eight miles of vehicle ways open to motorized use. Consequently, crucial bighorn sheep habitat would be adversely impacted by 353 acres of mining development and 9.6 acres of vehicle ways within the area.

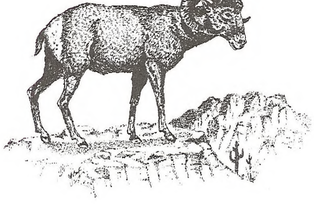
Conclusion: The *No Wilderness* alternative would not protect 8,855 acres of crucial bighorn sheep habitat from surface disturbances caused by mineral developments and vehicle ways.

No other resources would be impacted by this alternative.



Chapter 5

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



CHAPTER 5

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

INTRODUCTION

The Yuma Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement was prepared by an interdisciplinary team of resource specialists from the Yuma District Office. Writing of the EIS began in October 1986. The planning and wilderness studies that preceded the preparation of the draft EIS began in the fall of 1978 with the initial wilderness inventories. This process involved many steps that started with the wilderness inventories, then public participation, interagency coordination, preparation of Resource Management Plan recommendations, then the EIS process. Consultation and coordination with other agencies, organizations, and individuals occurred in a variety of ways throughout the planning and environmental process.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

An active public involvement process aided in developing this draft EIS. Public comments were gathered through public scoping meetings in Kingman, Lake Havasu City, Parker, Phoenix and Yuma, Arizona and Blythe, California; personal contacts; news releases; and mailings to agencies, individuals, businesses and other groups on the Yuma District wilderness mailing list. The major emphasis of the public involvement process has been to identify issues that the public wants considered in this draft EIS and the development of alternatives.

SCOPING (Issue Identification)

The scoping process began early in the study phase. BLM held a series of public scoping meetings to identify the public's concerns. Other issues were identified from public comments received during the inventory phase and the professional judgements of BLM specialists. Further issues were identified during the public comment period held to review the draft Yuma District Resource Management Plan. Scoping thus reduces the length of the EIS by emphasizing the important concerns and impacts.

The scoping process for this draft EIS involved several phases, extending from November 1978 to December 1986:

- Initial wilderness inventory — November 1978 to April 1979.
- Public comment period — April 1979 to June 1979.
- Intensive wilderness inventory — July 1979 to May 1980.
- Public comment period — May 1980 to July 1980.
- Wilderness inventory decisions — November 1980.
- Letters to Governors of California and Arizona announcing the start of the Havasu RMP, intent to coordinate with states — November 1981.
- News release announcing the start of the Havasu RMP, inviting public input — November 1981.
- 1,600 prepaid return mail postcards sent out with planning information packet asking if individuals or groups wish to be involved in planning process — November 1981.
- Notice of Intent to Prepare an RMP-EIS for the Havasu Resource Area appeared in the *Federal Register* — December 1981.
- Planning information packet mailed to announce public meetings, explaining the need for the meetings and requesting comments on issues — January 1982.
- News releases and public service announcements publicized forthcoming meetings — January 1982.
- Three public meetings in Lake Havasu City, Parker, and Bullhead City, Arizona, to identify issues — January 1982.
- Summary of public comments on planning issues mailed — February 1982.
- Postcards to update public mailing lists sent out — April 1982.
- Revised planning area and began Districtwide RMP-EIS — April 1983.
- Planning information packet mailed announcing public meetings in the Yuma Resource Area, inviting participation in issue identification — April 1983.
- Notice of Intent to Prepare an RMP-EIS for Yuma District published in the *Federal Register* — May 1983.
- Two public meetings held in Yuma, Arizona, and Blythe, California, to identify issues — May 1983.
- Form sent out to 63 agencies, Indian tribes, and irrigation districts, requesting information on plans, policies, and programs that might be affected by the RMP — June 1983.
- Letter sent to 54 agencies and utility and communications corporations for information on needed or proposed transmission lines, corridors and communication sites — June 1983.
- Briefing with Advisory Council on issues and criteria — July 1983.
- Letters and forms for identifying community expansion needs sent to 20 city and county offices in the District — July 1983.
- Summary of public comments on Yuma District planning issues mailed —July 1983.

- RMP issues and draft planning criteria mailed to approximately 575 groups, agencies and individuals — August 1983.
- Five draft RMP alternatives mailed to approximately 575 agencies, groups and individuals — December 1983.
- News release announcing forthcoming public meetings on draft alternatives — December 1983.
- Two open-house meetings in Lake Havasu City and Yuma, Arizona, to present draft RMP alternatives — December 1983.
- Briefing meetings with Advisory Council, state and federal agencies, and elected officials on plan alternatives — January 1984.
- Notice of Availability of the draft RMP-EIS for Yuma District published in the *Federal Register* — January 1985.
- News release and public service announcements publicizing forthcoming public hearings on draft RMP-EIS — February 1985.
- Four public hearings held in Lake Havasu City, Yuma and Phoenix, Arizona, and Blythe, California, to receive comments on the draft RMP-EIS — February 1985.
- Management briefing with city, county,state and federal agencies, elected officials, Indian tribes and BLM Advisory Council on draft RMP-EIS — March 1985.
- Letters sent informing those on the mailing list of the Intent to prepare Yuma District Wilderness environmental impact statement — September 1986.
- *Federal Register* Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the 22 wilderness study areas in the Yuma District —October 1986.
- Scoping Meetings — October 1986 to November 1986.
- Meeting with Yuma District Advisory Council — November 7, 1986.
- Public comment period on preliminary issues and criteria — October 1986 to December 1986.

In addition, BLM specialists met in the field and at other locations to consult with the Soil Conservation Service, Arizona State Land Department and Arizona Game and Fish Department and numerous other groups, agencies and individuals to check resource data, coordinate methodologies and exchange information.

LIST OF AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, INDIAN TRIBES, AND ELECTED OFFICIALS TO WHOM COPIES OF THIS STATEMENT WERE SENT

BLM requests comments on the draft EIS from all affected grazing permittees, interested individuals, federal and state agencies and interest groups. Due to the size of the mailing list, the following is a partial list of those receiving the document.

Federal Agencies and Commissions

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Council on Environmental Quality

Department of Agriculture
  Forest Service
  Soil Conservation Service

Department of Defense
  Army Corps of Engineers
  U.S. Air Force
  Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma
  Yuma Proving Ground, Army

Department of Energy
  Federal Energy Regulation Commission
  Western Area Power Administration

Department of Immigration and Naturalization
  Immigration Border Patrol

Department of the Interior
  Bureau of Indian Affairs
  Bureau of Mines
  Bureau of Reclamation
  Fish and Wildlife Service
  Geological Survey
  National Park Service

Department of Transportation
  Federal Aviation Administration
  Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Protection Agency

Federal Communications Commission

International Boundary and Water Commission

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Federal Elected Officials

Senator Alan Cranston
Senator Dennis DeConcini
Senator John McCain
Senator Pete Wilson
Representative George Brown
Representative Duncan Hunter
Representative Jon Kyl
Representative Jim Kolbe
Representative Jerry Lewis
Representative Al McCandless
Represenative Jay Rhodes
Representative Bob Stump
Representative Morris K. Udall

Arizona State Agencies

Arizona Bureau of Geology and Mineral Technology
Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture
Arizona Department of Health Services
Arizona Department of Mineral Resources
Arizona Department of Transportation

Arizona Department of Water Resources
Arizona Game and Fish Department
Arizona Natural Heritage Program
Arizona Office of Economic Planning and Development
Arizona Outdoor Recreation Coordinating Commission
Arizona State Clearinghouse
Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer
Arizona State Land Commissioner
Arizona State Museum
Arizona State Parks Board
Arizona State University
Commission on Arizona Environment
Museum of Northern Arizona
Northern Arizona University
University of Arizona

California State Agencies

California Conservation Corps
Colorado River Board of California
Department of Boating and Waterways
Department of Conservation
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Parks and Recreation
Department of Transportation
Department of Water Resources
Native American Heritage Commission
Office of Historic Preservation
Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
State Lands Commission
The Resources Agency of California
University of California at Berkeley
University of California at Riverside
University of California at Santa Barbara

State Elected Officials

Governor George Deukmejian
Governor Evan Mecham
Arizona State Senator John Hays
Arizona State Senator Jones Osborn
Arizona State Representative Don Aldridge
Arizona State Representative Dave Carson
Arizona State Representative Herb Guenther
Arizona State Representative Robert McLendon
California State Senator Marian Bergeson
California State Senator Robert Presley
California State Senator H. L. Richardson
California State Assemblyman Steve Clute
California State Assemblyman Steve Peace
California State Assemblyman William Leonard

County Agencies

Arizona Association of Counties
Imperial County
La Paz County Board of Supervisors
La Paz County Manager
Maricopa County Planning and Development
Mohave County Board of Supervisors
Mohave County Engineer
Mohave County Parks
Mohave County Planning and Zoning
Palo Verde Regional Council
Riverside County
San Bernardino County Planning Department
Southern California Association of Governments
Western Arizona Council of Governments
Yuma County Administrator
Yuma County Board of Supervisors
Yuma County Chamber of Commerce
Yuma County Highway Department
Yuma County Planning Department

City Governments

Blythe, California
El Centro, California
Needles, California
Bullhead City, Arizona
Lake Havasu City, Arizona
Parker, Arizona
Yuma, Arizona

Indian Tribes and Councils

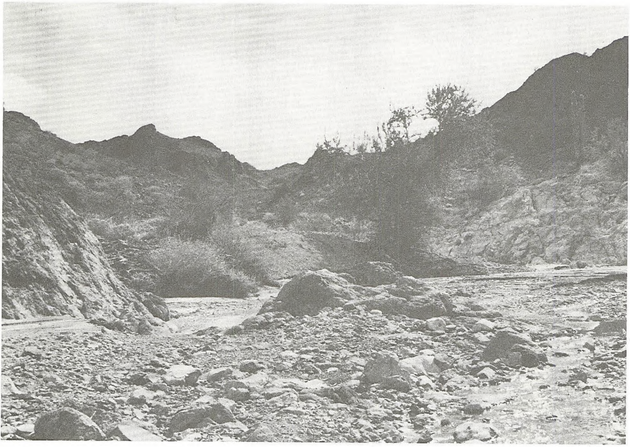
Chemehuevi Tribal Council
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Cocopah Tribal Council
Fort Mohave Tribal Council
Quechan Tribal Council
Yavapai-Prescott Board of Directors

Businesses

Arizona Public Service
Atlantic Richfield Co.
Chevron USA Inc.
Citizens Utilities Co.
Cyprus Minerals Co.
Gold Fields Mining Corp.
GSA Resources, Inc.
Lakin Enterprises
MCI Telecommunications Corporation
Mountain Bell
Occidental Minerals Corp.
Pacific Gas and Electric Co.
San Diego Gas and Electric Co.
Santa Fe Mining, Inc.
Santa Fe Pacific Railroad Co.
Southern California Edison Co.
Southern California Gas Co.
Southern Pacific Pipeline Co.
Southwest Gas
U.S. Borax

Organizations

Arizona Cattle Growers Association
Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, Inc.
Arizona Friends of the Earth
Arizona Humane Society
Arizona Mining Association
Arizona Miners and Prospectors Association
Arizona RV and Campers Parks Association
Arizona Wildlife Federation
Arizona Wilderness Coalition
Arizona 4-Wheel Drive Association
Audubon Society
California Association of 4-Wheel Drive Clubs
Central Arizona Water Conservation District
Colorado River Development Association
Conservation Call
Common Cause
Defenders of Wildlife
Desert Bighorn Council
Desert Fishes Council
Desert Protective Council
Desert Tortoise Council
Earth First!
High Desert Cattlemen's Association
Izaak Walton League of America
League of Women Voters
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Mohave Sportsmen Club
National 4-Wheel Drive Association
National Mustang Association
National Parks and Conservation Association
National Rifle Association
Natural Resources Defense Council
Palo Verde Irrigation District
Palo Verde Rod and Gun Club, California
River Front Property Owners Association
Riviera Property Owners Association
SCORE International
Sierra Club
Southern Arizona Environmental Council
Southern California Council of Conservation Clubs
The Nature Conservancy
The Wilderness Society
United Four Wheel Drive Associations
Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation District
Wildlife Management Institute
Wildlife Society
Yuma County Water Users Association
Yuma District Advisory Council



EIS INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

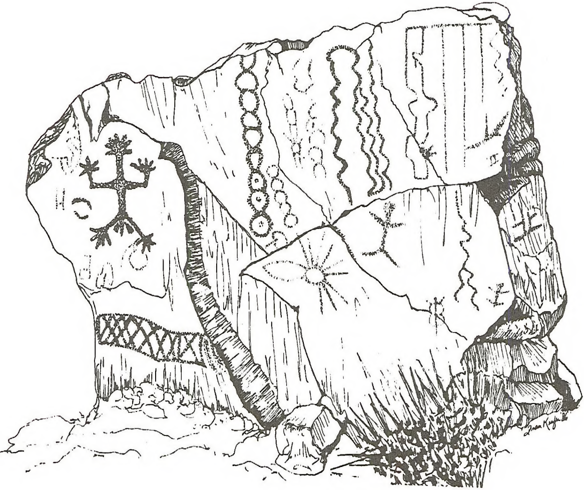
Name	Contribution	Education and Experience
Bill Carter	Team Leader	BS, Agronomy; BLM—21 years Planning and Environmental Coordinator (Phoenix District)
Hal Hallett	Asst. Team Leader Recreation Wilderness	BA, History; graduate study, Biology and Environmental Planning; BLM—7 years Outdoor Recreation Planner; State of California—7¼ years Park and Recreation Specialist, Park Ranger
Chuck Botdorf	Geology	BS, Geology; graduate study, Business Management; BLM—2 years Geologist; OSMRE—1 year Geologist/Mine Inspector; State of Missouri—1 year Hydrologist; USBR—3 years Geologist
Jane Closson	Writer/Editor Printing Coordinator	BS, Business Management; MA, Psychology; BLM—9 years Writer/Editor (Arizona State Office)
James P. Green	Wilderness Cultural Resources Lands	BA, MA, PhD Candidate, Anthropology/Archaeology; 15 years associated with universities; 2 years Archaeologist/Natural Resource Specialist, BLM
Eileen C. Griego	Word Processing	BLM—Editorial Assistant
Ann Harvey	Wildlife Grazing	BS, Forest Science & Wildlife Management USFS—3 months Forestry Aid 1 year Biological Technician
Susanna G. Henry	Wildlife Vegetation Wild Horses/Burros	BS, Wildlife Biology; MS, Wildlife Ecology; BLM—2 years Wildlife Biologist; USFS—1 year Wildlife Technician
Timothy J. Hughes	Wildlife Vegetation Wild Horses/Burros	BS, Wildlife and Fisheries Biology; BLM—1 year Wildlife Technician; Arizona Game & Fish—2 years Wildlife Biologist; USFS—1 year Fisheries Intern
Boma Johnson	Archaeologist	BA, Anthropology/History; MA, Archaeology; BLM—11½ years Archaeologist; 2½ years Cultural Resource Control Work, Arizona State University
Raymona Kramer	Word Processing	BLM—Clerk-Stenographer
Cliff Oyama	Land Use	BS, Wildlife; BLM—2 years Hazard Abatement Specialist, 10 years Realty Specialist; State of Arizona—3 years Agriculture Inspector
Jimmie D. Peterson	Lands	BS, Environmental Health; BLM—9 years Physical Scientist/Realty Specialist; State of Montana—6 years Sanitarian; State of Michigan—6 years Sanitarian
Douglas B. Stockdale	Public Involvement	BS, Forest Management; BLM—1/2 year Biological Technician Plant Taxonomist, 2½ years Range Conservationist, 4 years Wild Horse and Burro Specialist, 2 years Public Affairs Specialist
Dennis Turowski	Recreation	BS, Environmental Design; MS, Parks and Recreation Resources; BLM—1½ years Outdoor Recreation Planner, 4 years Planning Team Leader/Planning Coordinator; Smithsonian/Peace Corps—3 years National Parks Administrator
Michael Werner	Wilderness Land Use	BS, Natural Resources; BLM—3 years Surface Protection Specialist, 2½ years Outdoor Recreation Planner; BIA—2 years Forestry Technician

ARIZONA STATE OFFICE SUPPORT

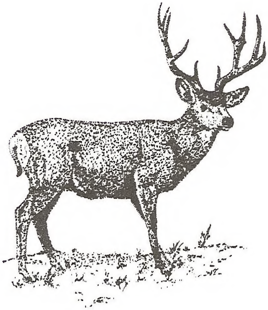
Name	Title
Jim Currivan	Wilderness Specialist
Chester P. Gawin	Civil Engineering Technician
Larry Taddia	Supervisory Cartographer
Keith Pearson	Planning and Environmental Coordinator

YUMA DISTRICT SUPPORT

Darwin Snell	District Manager
Robert Abbey	Assistant District Manager, Resources
Allan Belt	Area Manager, Yuma Resource Area
Mike Ford	Area Manager, Havasu Resource Area
Jim Atkins	Environmental Protection Specialist



APPENDICES



APPENDIX A
PLANT SPECIES MENTIONED IN THE WSA-EIS

Common and Scientific Names of Plants

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District

PLANTS

Common Name	Scientific Name
arrowweed	*Pluchea sericea*
barrel cactus	*Ferocactus acanthodes* var. *acanthodes*
barrel cactus	*Ferocactus acanthodes*
beavertail cactus	*Opuntia basilaris*
big galleta grass	*Hilaria rigida*
blackbrush	*Coleogyne ramoisissima*
blue palo verde	*Cercidium floridum*
boxthorn	*Lycium brevipes*
brittlebush	*Encelia farinosa*
buckhorn cholla	*Opuntia acanthocarpa*
burrobush	*Ambrosia deltoidea*
catclaw acacia	*Acacia greggii*
cottonwood	*Populus fremontii*
creosotebush	*Larrea tridentata*
Death Valley Mormon tea	*Ephedra funerea*
desert croton	*Croton californicus*
foothill palo verde	*Cercidium microphyllum*
foxtail cactus	*Coryphantha vivipara* var. *alversonii*
goldenhead	*Acamptopappus schockleyi*
honey mesquite	*Prosopis glandulosa*
ironwood	*Olneya tesota*
Joshua tree	*Yucca brevifolia*
linear-leaf sand spurge	*Stillingia linearifolia*
Mormon tea	*Ephedra trifurca*
night-blooming cereus	*Cereus greggii*
ocotillo	*Foquieria splendens*
plantago	*Plantago spp.*
prickly pear cactus	*Opuntia phaeacantha*
saguaro	*Carnegia gigantea*
saltcedar	*Tamarix spp.*
sand flat milkvetch	*Astragalus insularis*
screwbean mesquite	*Prosopis pubescens*
seepwillow	*Baccharis glutinosa*
silver cholla	*Opuntia echinocarpa*
single-needle pinyon pine	*Pinus monophylla*
smoketree	*Dalea spinosa*
staghorn cholla	*Opuntia versicolor*
tobacco plant	*Nicotiana glanca*
white bursage	*Ambrosia dumosa*
Wiggins' cholla	*Opuntia wigginsii*
willow	*Salix spp.*
wooly heads	*Nemacaulis denudata*

APPENDIX B
ANIMAL SPECIES MENTIONED IN THE WSA-EIS

Common and Scientific Names of Wildlife

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma District

REPTILES

Common Name	Scientific Name
desert night lizard	*Xantusia vigilis*
desert tortoise	*Gopherus agassizii*
flat-tailed horned lizard	*Phrynosoma mcallii*
Gila monster	*Heloderma suspectum*
Gilbert skink	*Eumeces gilberti*
Mohave fringe-toed lizard	*Uma notata scoparia*

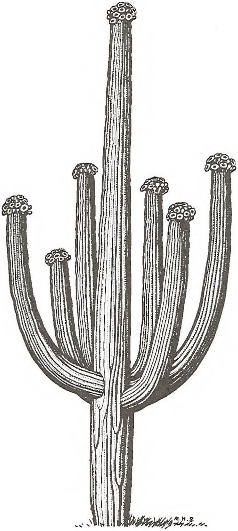
BIRDS

Common Name	Scientific Name
American peregrine falcon	*Falco peregrinus anatum*
Arizona Bell's vireo	*Vireo bellii*
cardinal	*Richmondena cardinalis*
Cooper's hawk	*Accipiter cooperii*
elf owl	*Micrathene whitneyi*
ferruginous hawk	*Buteo regalis*
Gila woodpecker	*Centurus uropygialis*
gilded flicker	*Colaptes chrysoides*
Harris hawk	*Parabuteo unicinctus*
hepatic tanager	*Piranga flava*
least bittern	*Ixobrychus exilis*
Merlin	*Falco columbarius*
northern harrier	*Circus cyaneus*
prarie falcon	*Falco mexicanus*
sharp-shinned hawk	*Accipiter striatus*
southern bald eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*
summer tanager	*Piranga rubra*
Swainson's hawk	*Buteo swainsoni*
vermilion flycatcher	*Pyrocephalus rubinus*
western yellow-billed cuckoo	*Coccyzus americanus*
white-faced ibis	*Plegadis chihi*
Wied's crested flycatcher	*Myiarchus tyrannulus*
willow flycatcher	*Empidonax traillii*

MAMMALS

Common Name	Scientific Name
desert bighorn sheep	*Ovis canadensis mexicana*
desert bighorn sheep	*Ovis canadensis nelsonii*
little long-nosed bat	*Leptonycteris sanborni*
mule deer	*Odocoileus hemionus*
spotted bat	*Euderma maculatum*
Yuma puma (mountain lion)	*Felix concolor browni*

GLOSSARY, REFERENCES, AND INDEX



GLOSSARY

The following abbreviations are used in this EIS. Those abbreviations that represent terms are defined in the glossary.

ACEC	area of critical environmental concern
ADMR	Arizona Department of Mineral Resources
AG&FD	Arizona Game and Fish Department
AMP	allotment management plan
APS	Arizona Public Service Company
AUM	animal unit month
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BR	Bureau of Reclamation
EA	environmental assessment
EIS	environmental impact statement
ESA	economic study area
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service
HMAP	herd management plan
HMP	habitat management plan
IMP	interim management policy
kV	kilovolt
MSA	management situation analysis
NRQ	National Register Quality
NWPS	National Wilderness Preservation System
ONA	outstanding natural area
ORV	off-road vehicle
PNV	potential natural vegetation
RMP	resource management plan
SMSAs	Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas
Su	surface mine
Ug	underground mine
USDI	U. S. Department of the Interior
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VDY	recreation visitor days use per year
VRM	visual resource management
WSA	wilderness study area

ACTIVITY PLAN: A more detailed and specific plan or program of actions to implement RMP decisions over some specified time period. Examples include allotment management plan, recreation area management plan and habitat management plan.

ADD-ON: Public lands with wilderness characteristics, but less than 5,000 acres in size, adjacent to other public lands designated as wilderness or being studied for designation.

ADVERSE EFFECT (Cultural Resources): Alteration of the characteristics which contribute to the use(s) determined appropriate for a cultural resource or which qualify a cultural property for the National Register to such a degree that the appropriate use(s) are diminished or precluded or the cultural property is disqualified from National Register eligibility. Criteria in the regulations of the Advisory Council (36 CFR Part 800) guide the determination of adverse effects.

ALLOCATION: The division of limited resource capabilities or supplies among the competitors for use.

ALLOTMENT: An area of land assigned to one or more livestock operators for grazing their their livestock. Allotments generally consist of BLM lands but many also include stateowned and private lands. An allotment may include one or more separate pastures. Livestock numbers and seasons of use are specified for each allotment.

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (AMP): A livestock grazing management plan for a specific allotment based on multiple-use resource management objectives. The AMP considers livestock grazing in relation to other uses of the range and in relation to renewable resources — watershed, vegetation and wildlife. An AMP establishes the seasons of use, the number of livestock to be permitted on the range and the rangeland developments needed.

ALLUVIAL FAN: The alluvial deposit of a stream where it issues from a gorge upon a plain or of a tributary stream at its junction with the main stream or river (see ALLUVIUM).

ALLUVIAL TERRACE: Pertaining to geologic deposits, generally unconsolidated, that are laid down by a river or stream. Deposits are formed normally where the slope or gradient becomes less steep.

ALLUVIUM: Clay, silt, sand or gravel deposited by running water.

ANIMAL UNIT (AU): One mature (1,000 lb) cow or its equivalent (4 deer, 5 antelope, 5 bighorn sheep, 1.25 elk or 1 horse) based upon an average daily forage consumption of 26 pounds of dry matter per day.

ANIMAL-UNIT MONTH (AUM): The amount of forage necessary for the sustenance of one animal for one month, e.g., one deer for one month equals one deer AUM.

ANNUAL PLANT: A plant that completes its life cycle and dies in one year or less (Range Term Glossary Committee, 1974).

APPARENT TREND: Immediate or short-term tendency (used mainly for grazing in this RMP-EIS).

AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC): An area of public land that requires special management attention in order to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.

AVOIDANCE: A potential adverse effect is prevented from occurring by the partial or complete redesign or relocation of a proposed land use.

BACKGROUND: The area visible from a travel route, use area or other observer position from a minimum of 3 to 5 miles to a maximum of about 15 miles (used in visual resources management).

BAJADA: Outwash slope at the base of a mountain consisting of fragments of rock.

BIGHORN SHEEP LAMBING GROUNDS: Areas where bighorn sheep usually go to give birth — usually isolated mountainous areas.

BIGHORN SHEEP YEARLONG USE AREA: An area of land a bighorn sheep population normally ranges over in pursuit of their basic life requirements: food, cover, forage and space.

BROWSE: Tender shoots, twigs and leaves of trees and shrubs fit for food for cattle; to graze.

CARRYING CAPACITY:

(1. Ecology/wildlife management) — The number (or weight) of organisms of a given species and quality that can survive in a given ecosystem (without causing deterioration of that ecosystem) through the least favorable environmental conditions that occur within a stated interval of time.

(2. Recreation management) — The level and type(s) of recreational use that a natural or developed area can provide without deterioration of the quality of the recreation experience or the resource.

CATCHMENT: A structure built to collect and retain water.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION: A category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and which have been found to have no such effect and for which, therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required. An agency may decide in its procedures or otherwise, to prepare environmental assessments even though it is not required to do so. Any procedures under this section shall provide for extraordinary circumstances in which a normally excluded action may have a significant environmental effect.

CHANNEL: An open conduit, either naturally or artificially created, which periodically or continuously contains moving water or forms a connecting link between two bodies of water.

CHANNEL STABILITY: A relative term describing erosion or movement of the channel walls or bottom due to overflow.

CHERRY-STEMMED ROAD: A road that enters but does not pass completely through a wilderness study area.

CLIMAX: The final stage of plant succession that continues to occupy an area as long as climatic or soil conditions remain unchanged and no major disturbances occur.

CLIMAX COMMUNITY: Highest ecological development of a community on a given site determined primarily by climate but also influenced by soil, topographic, vegetative, fire and animal factors.

CLOSED DESIGNATION: Areas and trails where the use of motor vehicles is permanently or temporarily prohibited.

COMMUNITY: A group of plants and animals living together in a common area and having close interactions.

CONSERVATION FOR FUTURE USE: A cultural resource will be separated and protected from other non-compatible land uses and preserved in place because (a) that particular site type is scarce or unique, (b) its information potential cannot be realized through available archaeological methods or (c) it represents an outstanding example of a particular site type.

CONTRAST: The effect of a striking difference in the form, line, color or texture of the landscape features within the area being viewed (used in visual resources management).

COVER, TOTAL VEGETATIVE: Percentage of ground area covered by live aerial parts of plants and mulch.

CRITICAL RANGE: Range on which a species depends for survival; there are no alternative ranges available due to climatic conditions or other limiting factors. Also called key range or crucial range.

CRITICAL WILDLIFE HABITAT: The area of land, water and airspace required for the normal needs and survival of an endangered species.

CRUCIAL DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP HABITAT: An area regularly used by desert bighorn sheep. Because of the decline in desert bighorn sheep populations throughout the southwest, this designation was used with a liberal interpretation.

CULTURAL PROPERTY: Any definite location of past human activity, habitation or use identified through a field inventory (see below), historical documentation or oral evidence. This term may include (a) archaeological or historic sites, structures and places and (b) sites or places of traditional cultural or religious importance to a specific group, whether or not represented by physical remains. Cultural properties are managed by the system of inventory evaluation and protection and use (see Appendix J).

CULTURAL RESOURCES: Those fragile and nonrenewable remains of human activity, occupation or use reflected in sites, structures, buildings, objects, artifacts, ruins, works of art, architecture and natural features that were of importance in human events. These resources consist of (1) physical remains, (2) areas where significant human events occurred — even though evidence of the event no longer remains and (3) the environment immediately surrounding the resource.

CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY: A descriptive listing and documentation including photographs and maps of cultural resources; included are the processes of locating, identifying and recording sites, structures, buildings, objects and districts through library and archival research, information from persons knowledgeable about cultural resources and varying levels of intensity of on-the-ground field surveys.

Class I: A professionally prepared study that compiles, analyzes and synthesizes all available data on cultural resources. Information sources for this study include published and unpublished documents, Bureau inventory records, institutional site files and state and national register files. Class I inventories may have prehistoric, historic and ethnological/sociological elements. These inventories are periodically updated to include new data from other studies and Class II and III inventories (see next entries).

Class II: A professionally conducted, statistically based sample survey designed to describe the probable density, diversity and distribution of cultural properties found in a large area. This is accomplished by projecting the results of intensive survey carried out over limited portions of the target area. Within individual sample units, survey aims, methods and intensities are the same as those applied in Class III inventory (see below). Class II inventory may be conducted in several phases using different sample designs to improve statistical reliability.

Class III: A professionally conducted intensive survey of an entire target area aimed at locating and recording all visible cultural properties. This survey is accomplished through systematic inspections commonly carried out by a crew of trained observers who walk a series of close-interval parallel transects until the area has been thoroughly examined.

CULTURAL RESOURCE SITE: A physical location of past human activities or events. Cultural resource sites are extremely variable in size and range from the location of a single cultural resource object to a cluster of cultural resource structures with associated objects and features. Prehistoric and historic sites which are recorded as cultural resources have sociocultural or scientific values.

CURRENT SCIENTIFIC USE: A cultural resource is the subject of an on-going scientific or historical study at the time of evaluation.

CUSTODIAL GRAZING MANAGEMENT ("C" Category): A limited form of rangeland management employed when the percentage of public lands is small, there is limited opportunity or potential for improvement or when public land is scheduled to be transferred from public ownership or when conditions are not conducive to other management. Under custodial management, an allottee is not required to follow a specified grazing system. BLM licenses custodial allotments only for the capacity of the public land but does not control overall livestock numbers, e.g., does not assign AUMs.

DEFERRED-ROTATION GRAZING: Moving livestock to various parts of a range in succeeding years or seasons to provide for seed production, plant vigor and for seedling growth.

DESERT PAVEMENT: A nearly flat desert soil surface consisting of a thin layer of pebbles covered with dark-brown varnish or iron and manganese oxides.

DESIGNATED CORRIDOR: A linear area of land with defined and recognized boundaries and capacities having ecological, technical, economic, social or similar advantages over other areas for the present or future location of rights-of-way and which have been identified and designated by legal public notice

ECOSYSTEM: A complex self-sustaining natural system which includes living and nonliving components of the environment and the circulation of matter and energy between organisms and their environment.

EFFECT (Cultural Resources): Any change in the characteristics which contribute to the use(s) determined appropriate for a cultural resource or to the qualities that qualify a cultural property for the National Register. Determination of effect is guided by criteria in the regulations of the Advisory Council, 36 CFR Part 800.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA): The procedure for analyzing the impacts of some proposed action on a given environment and the documentation of the analysis. An EA is similar to an environmental impact statement (EIS) but is generally smaller in scope. An EA may be preliminary to an EIS.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS): A written analysis of the impacts on the environment of a proposed project or resource management plan.

EPHEMERAL GRAZING: Seasonal livestock use of annual plants (see Annual Plants).

EROSION: The wearing away of the soil and surface by running water, wind, ice or other geological agents.

EVALUATION (Cultural Resources): The analysis of cultural resource inventory records, the application of professional judgment to identify characteristics that contribute to possible uses for recorded cultural resources, and the recommendation of appropriate use(s) for each resource or group of resources. National Register eligibility criteria, 36 CFR Part 60, are interpreted through or with reference to Bureau evaluation criteria.

EXOTIC: Not native to the place where found; pertains to plants and animals in this RMP-EIS.

EXTENSIVE RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA: In these areas, significant recreation opportunities and problems are limited and intensive recreation management is not required. Minimal management actions related to the Bureau's stewardship responsibilities are adequate in these areas.

FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 (FLPMA): Public Law 94-579, which gives BLM the legal authority to establish public land policy, to establish guidelines for administering such policy and to provide for the management, protection, development and enhancement of the public lands.

FEDERAL LANDS: Lands owned by the United States, without reference to how the lands were acquired or which federal agency administers the lands, including mineral or coal estates underlying private surface.

FLOODPLAIN: The nearly level alluvial plain that borders a stream or river and is subject to inundation during high water periods; the relatively flat area or lowlands adjoining a body of standing or flowing water which has been or might be covered by floodwaters.

FORAGE: All browse and herbaceous food available to and usable by grazing animals. Forage value varies with palatability, nutritive content, productivity, availability, season of use, type of animal being grazed, etc.

FORBS: Herbs other than grass; pertains to grazing and wildlife habitat.

FOREGROUND-MIDDLEGROUND: The area visible from a travel route, use area or other observer position to a distance of three to five miles (used in visual resources management).

FLYWAY: An established air route of migratory birds.

GRANDFATHERED USE: A mineral, grazing or right-of-way use that was on the land on the date that the Federal Land Policy and Management Act was approved (FLPMA; October 21, 1976). Under BLM's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review (BLM, 1979), grandfathered uses may continue on lands under wilderness review in the same manner and degree as on the date of FLPMA's approval, even if such uses impair wilderness suitability. These uses, however, must be regulated to ensure that they do not unnecessarily degrade these lands.

GRAZING PREFERENCE: The total number (active and suspended non-use) of animal-unit months of livestock grazing on public land apportioned and attached to base property owned or controlled by a permittee.

HABITAT: The place where an animal or plant normally lives, often characterized by a dominant plant and co-dominant form (pinyon juniper habitat).

HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN: A written and officially approved plan for a specific geographic area which identifies wildlife habitat and related objectives, establishes the sequence of actions for achieving objectives and outlines procedures for evaluating accomplishments.

HUNTER DAY: One person hunting during any part of one day.

IMPROVE GRAZING MANAGEMENT ("I" Category): A form of grazing management for rangeland in unsatisfactory condition that has production potential higher than present levels, but also has resource-use conflicts or unsatisfactory management. BLM intensively monitors the range to detect the results of "improve grazing management". Allotment plans are implemented.

INHOLDINGS: State or privately-owned land inside a wilderness study area.

INSIDE THE LEVEE: Lands between the flood control levee and the river.

INTENSIVE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES: Concentrated or exhaustive use of recreation resources.

INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT: Managing vegetation or other resources through a system to obtain desired results.

INTERIM MANAGEMENT POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR LANDS UNDER WILDERNESS REVIEW (IMP): A BLM document, dated December 12, 1979, which defines the policy for management of wilderness study areas so as not to impair their suitability for preservation as wilderness. The IMP will apply to these lands until Congress determines whether or not they are to be designated wilderness.

KNOWN GEOLOGIC STRUCTURES (KGS): Areas known to contain producible oil and gas deposits.

LEASABLE MINERALS: Minerals such as coal, oil shale, oil and gas, phosphate, potash, sodium, geothermal resources and all other minerals that may be acquired under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended.

LEASE: An instrument through which interests are transferred from one party to another, subject to certain obligations and considerations.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The description of a particular parcel of land according to the official plat of its cadastral survey, including Township, Range and Section numbers.

LOCATABLE MINERALS: Any valuable mineral that is not salable or leasable, including gold, silver, copper, tungsten and uranium, etc. (Maley 1983).

LONG-TERM: Up to 20 years following the beginning of the implementation phase for the RMP.

LONG-TERM IMPACTS: Impacts occuring 5 to 20 years or more following implementation of action.

MAINTAIN GRAZING MANAGEMENT ("M" Category): A form of grazing management for rangeland already in satisfactory condition that provides for no special programs or change in existing impact. Under maintained management, BLM monitors the range to detect undesirable conditions. Allotment management plans can be implemented if desired.

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLANS (MFPs): The 1975 land use plans for public lands in the Yuma District that provide a set of goals, objectives and constraints for a specific planning area to guide the development of detailed plans for the management of each resource.

MANAGEMENT SITUATION ANALYSIS (MSA): A step in the BLM planning process that identifies existing management, physical resources and opportunities to meet the needs, concerns and issues identified through resource management planning. The MSA results in a reference document, which is kept in the resource area office. The MSA document is open for public inspection but is not distributed to the public.

MANAGEMENT USE: A cultural resource is used for controlled experimental study which would result in its physical alteration. This study is conducted to obtain specific information on a) the kinds and rates of natural and human-caused deterioration or b) the effectiveness of protection measures.

MIDDENS: A refuse area associated with villages or camps (Cultural Resources); a dunghill (Wildlife Habitat).

MINERAL ENTRY: The location of mining claims by an individual to protect his right to a valuable mineral.

MINERAL ESTATE: Mineral ownership.

MITIGATION: The lessening of a potential adverse effect by applying appropriate protection measures, the recovery of cultural resource data or other measures.

MITIGATION MEASURES: Methods or procedures committed to by BLM for the purpose of reducing or lessening the impacts of an action.

MULTIPLE-USE: The management of public lands and their various resource values so that they are used in the combination that will best meet present and future public needs.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) OF 1969: A law enacted on January 1, 1970, that established a national policy to maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony and fulfill the social, economic and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans. It established the Council on Environmental Quality for coordinating environmental matters at the federal level and to serve as advisor to the President on such matters. The law made all federal actions and proposals which could have significant impact on the environment subject to review by federal, state and local environmental authorities.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA): The primary federal law providing for the protection and preservation of our cultural resources. Making it a national policy to preserve our cultural heritage, NHPA established the National Register of Historic Places, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and State Historic Preservation Officers.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES (NRHP): A list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology and culture maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. Expanded as authorized by Section 2(b) of the Historic Sites Act of 1935 (16 U.S.C. 462) and Section 101(a)(1) (A) of the National Historic Preservation Act.

NATIONAL REGISTER QUALITY SITE: A cultural resource site determined to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places by virtue of its local, state or national significance.

NATIVE AMERICAN VALUES: Native Americans hold specific and traditional values for sites or areas which may not contain cultural artifact or feature remains. Such sites or areas include but are not limited to places where hunting or gathering has occurred, or special areas considered sacred in their religious beliefs.

NATURAL AREA: Lands managed for (a) retention of their typical or unusual plant or animal types, associations or other biotic phenomena or (b) their outstanding scenic, geologic, soil or aquatic features or processes.

NATURALNESS: Appearing to be affected primarily by the forces of nature, with human influence largely unnoticeable.

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE (ORV): Any motorized, tracked or wheeled vehicle designed for crosscountry travel over any type of natural terrain. Exclusions (from Executive Order 11644, as amended by Executive Order 11989) are nonamphibious registered motorboats, any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes, any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorizing officer or otherwise officially approved, vehicles in official use, and any combat support vehicle in times of national defense emergencies.

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE DESIGNATIONS:

Open — Designated areas and trails where ORVs may be operated (subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in BLM Manuals 8341 and 8343).

Limited — Designated areas and trails where the use of ORVs is subject to restrictions, such as limiting the number or types of vehicles allowed, dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions); limiting use to existing roads and trails or limiting use to designated roads and trails. Combinations of restrictions are possible, such as limiting use to certain types of vehicles during certain times of the year.

Closed — Designated areas and trails where the use of ORVs is permanently or temporarily prohibited. Emergency use of vehicles is allowed.

100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN: Low lands and relatively flat areas adjacent to a water body that are subject to a 1% or greater chance of flooding in any given year, usually between the levees.

OUTSIDE THE LEVEE: Lands protected from the river by the flood control levee.

OUTSTANDING: Standing out among others of its kind; conspicuous, prominent or superior to others of its kind, distinguished or excellent as used in the description of wilderness characteristics.

OUTSTANDING NATURAL AREAS: Natural areas established to preserve scenic values and areas of natural wonder.

PERENNIAL GRAZING: Yearlong livestock use.

PERENNIAL PLANT: One with a life cycle of three or more years.

PLACER DEPOSIT: An alluvial or glacial deposit, as of sand or gravel, containing particles of gold or other valuable minerals.

PREDATION: The act of preying on other animals; food is obtained by killing and consuming animals.

PRELIMINARILY SUITABLE (WSAs): A wilderness recommendation made at any stage prior to the time when the Secretary of the Interior reports his recommendations to the President. Until the Secretary acts, the recommendation is "preliminary" because it is subject to change during administrative review.

PRIMITIVE RECREATION: Non-motorized outdoor recreation that requires undeveloped areas, e.g., those areas with wilderness opportunities.

PRIMITIVE RECREATION OPPORTUNITY: Opportunity for isolation from the sights and sounds of human beings. Opportunity to feel a part of the natural environment and to use outdoor skills.

PRIORITY USE AREA: An area where a particular resource, such as wildlife habitat, would receive management emphasis or priority. The areas are either unique, significant or best-suited for the development, management, use or protection of a resource. The principles of multiple use and sustained yield would be maintained in each priority use area. Many different uses would be allowed in these areas but the priority use would have the most emphasis. Other land uses would have limits placed on them to prevent conflicts with the priority resource. In some instances, a use totally incompatible with the priority resource would be excluded.

PRIORITY WILDLIFE SPECIES: See Species, Priority Wildlife.

PROPOSED LAND USE: Any use of lands or resources which requires an authorized officer's formal approval, whether proposed by the Bureau or by an outside applicant (used in cultural resources).

PUBLIC LAND: Vacant, unappropriated and unreserved lands that never left federal ownership; also, lands in federal ownership obtained in exchange for public lands or for timber on public lands. Land administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Part of BLM's planning system that provides the opportunity for citizens as individuals or groups to express local, regional and national perspectives and concerns in the rule making, decisionmaking, inventory and planning processes for public lands. This includes public meetings, hearings or advisory boards or panels that may review resource management proposals and offer suggestions or criticisms for the various alternatives considered.

PUBLIC USE: A cultural property is eligible for consideration as an interpretive exhibit-in-place, a subject of supervised participation in scientific or historical study, a subject of unsupervised collecting under permit or related educational and recreational uses by members of the general public.

RANGE (RANGELAND): Land dominated by vegetation that can be grazed or browsed and whose husbandry is provided routinely through grazing management instead of renovations or cultural treatment (Range Term Glossary Committee, 1974).

RANGE CONDITION: The present state of vegetation of a range site in relation to the climax plant community of that site. Range condition is basically an ecological rating of the plant community. Air-dry weight is the unit of measure used in comparing the composition and production of the present plant community with that of the climax community.

RANGE CONDITION TREND: Direction of change, whether stable, toward (upward) or away (downward) from the site's potential.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: A structure, development or treatment used to rehabilitate, protect or improve the public lands to enhance the range resource.

RANGELAND MONITORING PROGRAM: A program designed to measure changes in plant composition, ground cover, animal populations and climatic conditions on the public rangeland. Vegetation studies are used to monitor changes in rangeland condition and determine the reason for any changes that are occurring. The vegetation studies consist of actual use, utilization trend and climatic conditions.

RAPTOR: Birds of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks, e.g., hawks, owls, vultures, eagles.

RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES ACT (R&PP): This act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to lease or convey public lands for recreational and public purposes under specified conditions of states or their political subdivisions and to non-profit corporations and associations.

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITY: Those outdoor recreational activities which offer satisfaction in a particular physical, social and management setting in the EIS area. These activities are primarily hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, photography, boating and camping.

RECREATION VISITOR DAY: An aggregation of 12 visitor hours. A visitor hour is the presence of one or more persons on land and water for outdoor recreation for periods totaling 60 minutes; for example, one person for one hour, two persons for one-half hour each, and so on.

RESEARCH NATURAL AREA (RNA): A natural area established and maintained for research and education, which may include (a) typical or unusual plant or animal types, associations or other biotic phenomena or (b) characteristic or outstanding geologic, soil or aquatic features or processes. The public may be excluded or restricted from such areas to protect studies.

RESOURCE AREA: The smallest administrative subdivision of a BLM district.

RESOURCE-BASED RECREATION: Recreation relating to the natural features of the land.

REST-ROTATION GRAZING: A grazing system in which one part of the range is left ungrazed for an entire year or longer, while other parts are grazed for a portion or all of a growing season.

RIPARIAN AREA: An area where the vegetation shows the effects of open water or water very close to the surface of the ground. This includes the shores of lakes and reservoirs, intermittent or perennial streams, desert washes, springs and rivers.

RIPARIAN COMMUNITIES: Vegetative communities found in association with either open water or water close to the surface. In the Desert Southwest this vegetation includes cottonwood, willow, ironwood and blue paloverde trees.

RIPARIAN HABITAT, AQUATIC (STREAMSIDE): Vegetative communities found in association with streams (both perennial and intermittent), lakes, ponds and other open water. This unique habitat is crucial to the continued existence of the fish species known to occur. Streamside vegetation maintains high-water tables, stabilizes streambanks, creates quality fishery habitat and maintains water quality. It is also essential to most terrestrial wildlife species.

RIPARIAN HABITAT, TERRESTRIAL: Vegetative communities found in association with either open water or water close to the surface includes such habitat features as willow and cottonwood trees, salt cedar and mesquite trees. This unique habitat is crucial to the continued existence of the majority of the terrestrial wildlife species known to occur in the district.

ROAD: Vehicle routes which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road (see Vehicle Way).

RUNOFF: The water that flows on the land surface from an area in response to rainfall or snowmelt. As used in this RMP, runoff from an area becomes streamflow when it reaches a channel.

SALABLE MINERALS: Minerals such as common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumicite and clay that may be acquired under the Materials Act of 1947, as amended.

SCENIC QUALITY: The degree of harmony, contrast and variety within a landscape (used in visual resources management).

SCOPING PROCESS: An early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action. Scoping may involve public meetings, field interviews with representatives of agencies and interest groups, discussions with resource specialists and managers, written comments in response to news releases, direct mailings and articles about the proposed action and scoping meetings.

SEMIPRIMITIVE MOTORIZED RECREATION OPPORTUNITY: Opportunity to use motorized equipment in areas with some opportunity for isolation from the sights and sounds of human beings. Isolation is not as important in semiprimitive opportunities as it is in primitive opportunities. Opportunity for a high degree of interaction with the natural environment, moderate challenge and risk, and use of outdoor skills.

SEMIPRIMITIVE NONMOTORIZED RECREATION OPPORTUNITY: Opportunity for recreation without motorized equipment in areas with some opportunity for isolation from the sights and sounds of human beings. Isolation is not as important in semiprimitive opportunities as it is in primitive opportunities. Opportunity for a high degree of interaction with the natural environment, moderate challenge and risk, and use of outdoor skills.

SENSITIVE SPECIES: See Species, Sensitive.

SHERD: A fragment of a pottery vessel.

SHORT-TERM: The period of time needed to implement management's decisions following the completion of the EIS, approximately five years.

SHORT-TERM IMPACTS: Temporary impacts lasting less than five years and expected to occur during or immediately following implementation of action.

SIGNIFICANCE: A high degree of importance as indicated by either quantitative measurements or qualitative judgments. Significant issues and impacts require explicit consideration in the preparation of a plan. Significance may be determined by evaluating characteristics pertaining to location, extent, consequence and duration of an action or impact.

SIKES ACT — (Public Law 93-452): An Act passed to expand the authority for carrying out conservation and rehabilitation programs on public lands. Provides for the development of comprehensive plans for conservation and rehabilitation programs by the Secretary of the Interior in consultation with state agencies. It also provides for entering into cooperative agreements between the Secretary of the Interior and state agencies for the management of wildlife habitat on public lands.

SOCIO-CULTURAL USE: A social and/or cultural group perceives that a cultural resource, place, structure or geographic location has characteristics which help to maintain the group's heritage or identity.

SOIL HORIZON: A layer of soil, approximately parallel to the surface, that has distinct characteristics produced by soil-forming processes.

SOLITUDE: The state of being alone or remote from habitations; isolation or a lonely, unfrequented or secluded place as used in describing wilderness opportunities.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Resources that are not required for an area to be designated wilderness but that are considered in assessing the wilderness potential of an area. Such values include ecologic, geologic and other featues of scientific, educational, scenic or historic value.

SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA (SRMA): Areas requiring explicit recreation management to achieve the Bureau's recreation objectives and to provide specific recreation opportunities. Special management areas are identified in the RMP, which also defines the management objectives for the area. BLM's recreation investments are concentrated in these areas.

SPECIES, ENDANGERED: An animal or plant whose prospects of survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy, and as further defined by the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

SPECIES COMPOSITION: Proportions of various plant species in relation to the total on a given area; may be expressed in percentages based on weight, crown cover or basal intercept.

SPECIES, PRIORITY WILDLIFE: Those fish and wildlife species listed or proposed for listing by a state wildlife agency or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as endangered, threatened or sensitive candidate; and species of significant economic or recreational value.

SPECIES, SENSITIVE: A designation which is (1) applied to species not yet officially listed but which are undergoing a status review or are proposed for listing according to Federal Register notices published by the Secretary of the Interior or, the Secretary of Commerce or in accordance with comparable state documents published by state officials; (2) applied to species whose populations are consistently small and widely dispersed or whose ranges are restricted to a few localities, such that any appreciable reduction in numbers, habitat availability, or habitat condition might lead toward extinction or (3) applied to species whose numbers are declining so rapidly that official listing may become necessary as a conservation measure.

SPECIES, THREATENED: Any species which is likely to become an endandered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and as is further defined by the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

SPLIT ESTATE: The surface estate and the mineral estate of a parcel of land are in different ownership.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER: The official who is appointed by the Governor to be responsible for administering the State Historic Preservation Program pursuant to Section 101(b)(1) of the National Historic Preservation Act.

STOCKING RATE: Number of animals on a given area of land at any time. It may be above, below or equal to the proper carrying capacity and may be expressed as animal-unit months per acre, animal-unit years per section or acres per animal-unit month or year.

SUCCESSION, PLANT: Process of vegetational development whereby an area becomes successively occupied by different plant communities of higher ecological order.

SUPERGENE: A mineral deposit or enrichment formed near the surface, commonly by descending solutions.

SUSTAINED YIELD: The achievement and maintenance in perpertuity of a high level of annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the public lands consistent with multiple use.

SWITCHBACK (DEFERRED) GRAZING: The discontinuance of livestock grazing on an area for a specified period of time during the growing season to promote plant reproduction or restoration of vigor by old plants.

TERRESTRIAL HABITAT: Habitat pertaining to the land as distinct from the water.

THREATENED SPECIES: Any plant or animal species that is likely to become an endangered species throughout all or a significant portion of its range, as defined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

TINAJA (Spanish): A natural water catchment. Also called a tank.

TOPOGRAPHY: The exact physical features and configuration of a place or region; the detailed and accurate description of the landforms of a place or region.

TRADITIONAL LIFEWAY VALUE: The quality of being useful in or important to the maintenance of a specific social and/or cultural group's traditional system of religious belief, cultural practice or social interaction, not closely identified with specific locations. Traditional lifeway values are taken into account through planning and environmental assessment, and may be subject to inventory, evaluation, administrative protection and use.

TRAIL: A track, made by the passage of a vehicle, regularly used for travel. Desert washes are included as trails except where washes have been specifically closed to vehicle operation.

TRESPASS: The use of public lands without proper authority, resulting either from a willful or negligent act.

VEGETATION: Plants in general or the sum total of the plant life above and below ground in an area.

VEGETATIVE TYPE: A plant community dominated or apparently dominated by one or more species which give it a characteristic appearance or aspect. Examples include sagebrush, creosotebush, mesquite, shortgrass, tallgrass, etc. Usually a subdivision of a grazing region.

VEHICLE WAY: A vehicle route established and maintained solely by the passage of motor vehicles.

VIEWSHED: The area over which a specific project or feature is visible.

VISITOR DAY: See Recreation Visitor Day.

VISUAL RESOURCE: The land, water, vegetation and animals that comprise the scenery of an area.

VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (VRM): The planning, designating and implementing of management objectives to provide acceptable levels of visual impacts for all BLM resource management activities.

VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES: The degree of acceptable visual change within a characteristic landscape. A class is based upon the physical and sociological characteristics of any given homogeneous area and serves as a management objective.

Class I areas (preservation) provide for natural ecological changes only. This class includes primitive areas, some natural areas, some wild and scenic rivers and other similar sites where landscape modification activities should be restricted.

Class II (retention of the landscape character) includes areas where changes in any of the basic elements (form, line, color or texture) caused by management activity should not be evident in the characteristic landscape.

Class III (partial retention of the landscape character) includes areas where changes in the basic elements (form, line, color or texture) caused by management activity may be evident in the characteristic landscape. However, the changes should remain subordinate to the visual strength of the existing character.

Class IV (modification of the landscape character) includes areas where changes may subordinate the original composition and character; however, they should reflect what could be a natural occurrence within the characteristic landscape.

Class V (retention or enhancement of the landscape character) includes areas where change is needed. This class applies to areas where the landscape character has been so disturbed that rehabilitation is needed or where the quality class has been reduced because of unacceptable intrusions. It should be considered an interim short-term classification until one of the other classes can be reached through rehabilitation or enhancement.

VULNERABILITY: The condition where a resource or area is in danger of extensive degradation in the immediate or foreseeable future.

YEARLONG GRAZING: Continuous grazing for a 12-month period or for a calendar year.

WATER QUALITY: The chemical, physical and biological characteristics of water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

WATERSHED: A total area of land above a given point on a waterway that contributes runoff water to the flow at that point.

WETLANDS: Permanently wet or intermittently flooded areas where the water table (fresh, saline or brackish) is at, near or above the soil surface for extended intervals, where hydric wet soil conditions are normally exhibited and where water depths generally do not exceed two meters.

WILDERNESS AREA: An area formally designated by Congress as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS: Identified by Congress in the 1964 Wilderness Act: size, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation and supplemental values such as geological, archaeological, historical, ecological, scenic or other features. It is required that the area possess at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land or be of a size to make practical its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; be substantially natural or generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the impairing of man being substantially unnoticeable; and have either outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Congress stated that a wilderness area may also have supplemental values, which include ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value.

WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA): A parcel of public land that has been found to possess the basic wilderness characteristics identified by Congress in the Wilderness Act of 1964; namely, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, size of at least 5,000 acres, and the appearance of having been affected primarily by the forces of nature. Supplemental values such as geological, archaeological, historical, ecological, or scenic features also may be present.

WILDERNESS VALUES: The wilderness characteristics and multiple resource benefits of an area.

WINDOW: Usually short, narrow passageways through constrained areas which are the most feasible potential locations for linear facilities such as powerlines and pipelines considering engineering and/or environmental factors.

WITHDRAWAL: An action that restricts the use of public lands and segregates the lands from the operation of all or some

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  - Kofa Unit 4 Northern Addition 1,9,12,17,71,98, 105,110,113,142,198
  - Kofa Unit 4 Southern Addition 1,9,12,17,75,99, 105,110,113,144201
  - Little Picacho Peak Addition 1,9,12,17,77,99, 105,110,113,145,203
  - Mohave Wash 1,5,9,12,17,27,88,104,110,113,115,164
  - Muggins Mountains 1,9,12,17,79,100,105,110, 113,147,205
  - Needles Eastern Addition 1,9,12,17,19,86, 104,109,110,113,159
  - Planet Peak 1,9,12,17,39,91,104,110,113,123,174
  - South Trigo Mountains 1,5,9,12,17,61,95, 105,110,113,137,189
  - Swansea 1,9,12,17,52,93,94,105,110,113,129,182
  - Trigo Mountains 1,5,9,12,17,65,96,97, 105,110,113,138,191
  - Whipple Mountains Addition 1,9,12,17,33,89, 104,110,113,117
- Wildlife 4,13
- Wildlife Habitat x,2,9,10,153

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